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VOL. III NO. 21

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1948.

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4-Hour Battle In Mountains

Haganah And Arab Guerillas

Jerusalem, Jan. 25.—British armoured cars, equipped with two-pounder guns, tonight broke up a battle between Arabs and Jews in the mountains along the Jerusalem-Jaffa road after more than 20 casualties had been inflicted on both sides.

The veteran Arab guerilla chief, Abdul Kader Hussein, today personally led a band of several hundred heavily armed Arabs which fought a four-hour battle with units of Haganah, the Jewish Defence Force, in the Mount Castel area on the Jaffa-Jerusalem road.

The Arabs claimed to have killed eight Jews for the loss of two killed and four wounded. Jewish sources admitted five Jews were killed, but claimed about 10 Arabs were killed. The battle was joined at noon when a Haganah scouting force, spearheaded by a big Jewish convoy of buses, lorries and cars travelling from Tel-Aviv towards Jerusalem, clashed with an Arab party commanded by Hussein, which, it is understood, was preparing to mine the road about 16 kilometres west of Jerusalem.

CALL TO ARMS

Both sides called up reinforcements. Messengers rushed to Arab villages, sounding a call to arms and Arab riflemen and tommy-gunners commandeered cars, lorries and one bus to rush to the scene of the battle.

Meanwhile, the Haganah force was swelled by armed men from the convoy. Heavy gunfire re-echoed from the hills flanking the road and tommy-gunners of both sides fired thousands of rounds before the battle died down.

Returning from the battle, Hussein, riding a big American car, surrounded by his bodyguard carrying machine-guns, was given a victory reception as he headed his column of handloaded rifle-brandishing Arabs through the town of Ramatallah, north of Jerusalem.

Hundreds of cheering townsmen fired pistols and rifles into the air, shouting "Death to the Jews!"

CASUALTIES MOUNT UP

Jerusalem, Jan. 25.—Total casualties in the eight-week Arab-Jewish partition war reached 3,200 tonight as the biggest battle so far to keep open the Jerusalem-Tel-Aviv highway to Jewish traffic raged in the Seven Sisters Hills.

Figures compiled by the United Press during the eight weeks of fighting showed almost 1,200 persons killed, including 721 Arabs, 408 Jews, 19 civilians and 12 British policemen.

The total number of wounded was 1,171 Arabs, 749 Jews, 13 civilians, 37 British police officers and 76 soldiers.—United Press.

EDITORIAL

A Divided Europe

THE vehemence with which Mr Ernest Bevin last week proclaimed his foreign policy vis-a-vis Europe, and the strong tone adopted by Mr Attlee in supporting the Foreign Secretary's speech could have only one meaning: notice was being given to Moscow that Britain stood foursquare with the United States in its opposition to Communism, and that the British Government was not prepared to make any concession to that ideology. Mr Bevin at times appeared to be speaking as much in sorrow as anger, being probably influenced by recent memories of the fiasco attending the Big Four conference in London, and Russia's unwillingness even to discuss the Marshall Plan for the rehabilitation of Europe. The unequivocal attitude of the two principal Government speakers towards Communism will undoubtedly be applauded by the British nation as a whole. Mr Attlee correctly gauges public opinion when he says "we are absolutely opposed to the Communist way of life," and he scored another effective point when he addressed to Stalin personally the suggestion that the Soviet leader should "give up the idea that somehow or other Britain is going to turn Communist." There can be no quarrel over the British Government's inclusive reputation of Communism as a political system, but at the same time it is

impossible to escape from the sobering implications of Mr Bevin's and Mr Attlee's speeches. Both found it necessary to make direct references to the possibility of armed conflict in order to ensure that Communism does not spread beyond its present boundaries in Europe. Economically and politically the lines are already drawn and it would not require many overt acts of infiltration by Soviet agents into western and central European countries which are at present adherents to the democratic way of life, for the existing "cold war" to develop into one of guns and bombs. Europe appears destined to be divided into two, British policy now being committed to the development and consolidation of a Western bloc capable, with the aid of the Marshall Plan and a Customs union, of effecting its own recovery. It would be foolish, however, to imagine that Russia is incapable of assisting zones of influence in Eastern and southeastern Europe towards economic rehabilitation; she must, in fact, be expected to make every endeavour towards this end if only to guarantee herself frontier bulwarks, and, of course, a useful bargaining weapon in the international councils. The painful process of trying to rehabilitate a disunited Europe will be welcomed with not a little apprehension: the danger signs are too obvious to require embellishment.

France Devalues

The Franc

FREE MARKET IN GOLD PROPOSED

British Objections

London, Jan. 25.—France tonight announced a new franc rate of 214,392 to the dollar. The sterling rate will be 864 francs to the pound as expected.

Within a few days a free market in gold and certain hard currencies will be established. At the beginning, it was officially stated today, the only hard currencies to be dealt in will be the United States dollar and the Portuguese escudo. Other currencies may be admitted to the free market as time goes on, it was authoritatively stated.

Exporters will surrender half their foreign exchange at the official rate and will be allowed to dispose of the other half in the free market. To purchase currencies in the free market, it will be necessary to act through approved agents and to be in possession of an import licence or an equivalent currency certificate. Everybody will be free to sell foreign exchange in the free market.

France's announcement of an 80 per cent increase in the purchasing power of all foreign currencies against the franc, as from tomorrow, coincides with a joint Anglo-French statement regarding the disagreement between the two nations.

The French communiqué, announcing the devaluation of the franc and the establishment of a free market in United States dollars and Portuguese escudos, stated tonight that the following decisions had been taken:

1.—The rates at which the Exchange Stabilisation Fund will buy or sell foreign currencies against francs will, as from January 26, 1948, be increased by a premium.

This premium applies to all transactions and is uniform to all currencies. Its amount is fixed at 80 per cent of the rates in force up to now.

The new rates of the franc will thus be 214,392 for one dollar and 864 francs for one pound sterling.

The parties of the Metropolitan franc in relation to the other currencies of the franc zone will not be modified, except in regard to the franc of the French territories of the Pacific as well as the French Tunes.

FREE MARKET

2.—Alongside the official market, there will be immediately established a free market in which the United States dollar and the Portuguese escudo can be quoted.

The characteristics of the free market will be the following:

(a) The market will be supplied by one half of the produce of exports, the other half being ceded to the Exchange Stabilisation Fund on the basis of the rates adopted by it; by the total of the currencies from any other source, particularly currencies coming from non-commercial settlements, movements of capital responding to movements of capital from abroad into France, and currencies from foreign tourists.

(b) The resources (in foreign currencies) of the market can be used as follows: for payment of imports of merchandise, except for certain special categories of imports considered as essential. The currency required for the payment of these latter imports will continue to be delivered by the Exchange Stabilisation Fund at the rate adopted by it. For all other settlements or movements of capital from France abroad except for certain payments by the State.

(c) The market thus defined will be a free market in this sense that the rate of the currencies dealt in will be established freely by the law of supply and demand.

The monetary authorities will only see to it on the one hand that all the currencies are effectively so devalued, and on the other that only purchases are effected which correspond to payments authorised by the Foreign Exchange Control Office on the customary conditions, namely, as far as imports are concerned, against the delivery of licences.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

The following joint communiqué was issued here tonight by the French and British Governments:

"M. Beno Mayer, the Minister of Finance, exchanged views in London on January 16 and 17 with the Chancellor of the Exchequer about the monetary project of the French Government.

Blizzard Causes 23 Deaths

New York, Jan. 25.—The death toll in the second great blizzard to strike the American east coast this winter today rose to 23 as the snow storm, which lashed the whole eastern seaboard, swept out to sea, leaving a trail of disrupted transport and clogged highways.

A blanket of snow, 15 to 30 centimetres deep, covered most of the coastal and central states and temperatures were still about minus 18 degrees centigrade.

Areas as far south as the Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and even New Orleans were struck by blinding snowstorms. The coldest spot in the United States yesterday was Montpelier Junction, Vermont, where the temperature was minus 43 degrees centigrade.

The roads throughout the affected area were covered with ice, making driving dangerous and railways were still running up to eight hours behind schedule.—Reuter.

Demand Grows For Channel Tunnel

"GOOD COMMERCIAL RISK"

London, Jan. 25.—A demand for action on the proposal to construct a £65,000,000 Channel tunnel between Britain and France will be made to Parliament before the present Government ends its term of office in 1950.

Mr Christopher Shawcross, Chairman of the Parliamentary Tunnel Committee, indicated his committee's intention to press the matter when he returned to London from meetings with the French Parliamentary Channel Tunnel Committee in Paris.

The joint Anglo-French committee will meet in London next month to study plans of the proposed 32-mile long tunnel, which would link Folkestone with Cap Gris Nez.

Mr Shawcross said the British General Staff was maintaining its long-standing objection to the plan. "It would be fair to say that had there never been any military objections by the advisers of the British Government, the Channel tunnel would have been constructed long ago," he added.

"I consider the building of the tunnel a good commercial risk," he said.

POLITICAL IMPORTANCE

"The British Government should look not only at the financial aspect of the scheme but also at the great political effect the tunnel would have in joining Britain directly to Europe."

"If it is not essential for the establishment of a United States of Europe, including Britain, at least its tremendous influence in the creation and consolidation of that ideal must be obvious."

"The last determined British effort to push the plan through Parliament was defeated by a narrow majority in 1930."

Mr Shawcross thinks the British and French Governments should consider the possibility of permitting the investment of American private capital in the project.

"I believe American investors should be given a chance to risk their capital in this project," he declared.

"I feel, however, the two governments should be adequately safeguarded on the following matters."

1.—The provision of the necessary materials, such as steel from America;

2.—The provision of such machinery as could not be profitably obtained from Britain;

3.—Anglo-French governmental control of the company's directorate;

4.—Anglo-French governmental control of fares and of freight through the tunnel."

MILITARY OBJECTIONS

Of the military objections to the tunnel, Mr Shawcross said: "Sapping is one of the oldest forms of overcoming an enemy's defences. The soldier instinctively dislikes it. It is not cricket, and there is general dislike of being blown up underneath or being assailed by enemy who suddenly springs up in your midst."

It is estimated that the construction of the tunnel would take seven and a half years.—Reuter.

COLDEST SINCE 1917

Hongkong Shivers

At 7 o'clock last night the Royal Observatory recorded a temperature of 40.2 degrees Fahrenheit, the lowest in January since 1917, when the thermometer fell to 38.8.

The 40.2 reading was also the lowest in Hongkong for any month of the year since 1925.

Observatory officials predicted that the cold weather would continue, probably for a day or two, and they said it may even get colder.

This morning at 6 o'clock, a resident on the Peak found his thermometer reading 32.5, and at 6 o'clock last evening it registered 35 degrees.

The drop in temperature for the 24 hours between 2 a.m. on Saturday and 2 a.m. Sunday is said to have been exceptionally rapid. At 2 o'clock Saturday the mercury registered 68, and 24 hours later had fallen to 47.

MANY SHANGHAI DEATHS

Shanghai, Jan. 26.—Some 130 corpses of children were picked up in the streets of Shanghai yesterday as Shanghai remained in the grip of the coldest spell this winter with the temperature well below freezing point.

According to the Shanghai Benevolence Society which will see to the burial of these children, all the deaths were due to exposure.

Local observatory experts predict that the present cold spell will stay for several more days—which news is welcomed by the farmers who forecast bumper crops after the occurrence of severe weather at this time of year.—Reuter.

He Sold A Sunken Battleship

Trieste, Jan. 25.—The police today arrested Bruno Nidoldi, 29, for selling a group of Milanese businessmen the sunken battleship *Giulio Cesare*.

Nidoldi took the businessmen to the port of Anagnina here and showed them what was visible of the battleship. He then showed them fake Military Government documents, according to the police, that he was the legal owner.

The businessmen snapped his offer to sell it for US\$255,000. They paid him US\$17,000 down, but before paying the balance they cautiously checked up ownership of the *Giulio Cesare*.

That was when Nidoldi was arrested.—United Press.

US-Soviet Trade Relations

ENVOY URGES EXPANSION

Washington, Jan. 25.—A call for expanded Soviet-American trade as a step towards better diplomatic relations was made by the new Russian Ambassador to the United States, M. Alexander S. Panyushkin, in Washington today.

M. Panyushkin said the people of both countries were equally interested in bettering these relations.

Accusing the United States Government of blocking trade between the two countries through discriminatory regulations, the new Soviet Ambassador said that American trade regulating agencies were discriminating against commerce with the Soviet Union despite the desire of "certain circles" in the United States to develop and strengthen this trade. M. Panyushkin did not name specific instances of alleged discrimination.

M. Panyushkin made the statement in reply to written questions submitted by an American news agency.

CO-EXISTENCE

Asked if he considered the increasingly serious differences between the Soviet Union and the United States inevitable because of the differences in the two political systems, he replied that the foreign policy of the Soviet Union proceeded from the fact of the co-existence of the two different systems.

The difference between them was of no substantial importance since the matter in question was their co-operation. If there was a desire to co-operate, then co-operation was wholly possible under different economic systems.

M. Panyushkin declared the Soviet Union had never refused development of trade with the United States on conditions of normal business practice.

Replying to a question as to how the United States could best help the Soviet Union to rebuild war-devastated areas, the Soviet Ambassador said the Soviet Union had a five-year plan of rehabilitation and development of its national economy.

REPARATIONS

The Soviet people were successfully fulfilling this plan. Simultaneously, the Soviet Union was reviving and developing its trade relations with other nations. Therefore, the answer to the question could be found in a normalisation of Soviet-American trade.

The fulfilment of the Yalta and Potsdam Agreements on reparations would also have a great positive meaning.

M. Panyushkin said the Soviet Union proposed to renew conversations with the American State Department in an effort to reach a settlement of the Soviet loan-loss account and had submitted concrete proposals.

Asked whether he intended at this time, or in the foreseeable future, to resume the Soviet Union's discussions with the United States Government on the prospect of a \$1,000 million loan to the Soviet Union, M. Panyushkin said it was not his intention under the present circumstances to take the initiative in that direction.—Reuter.

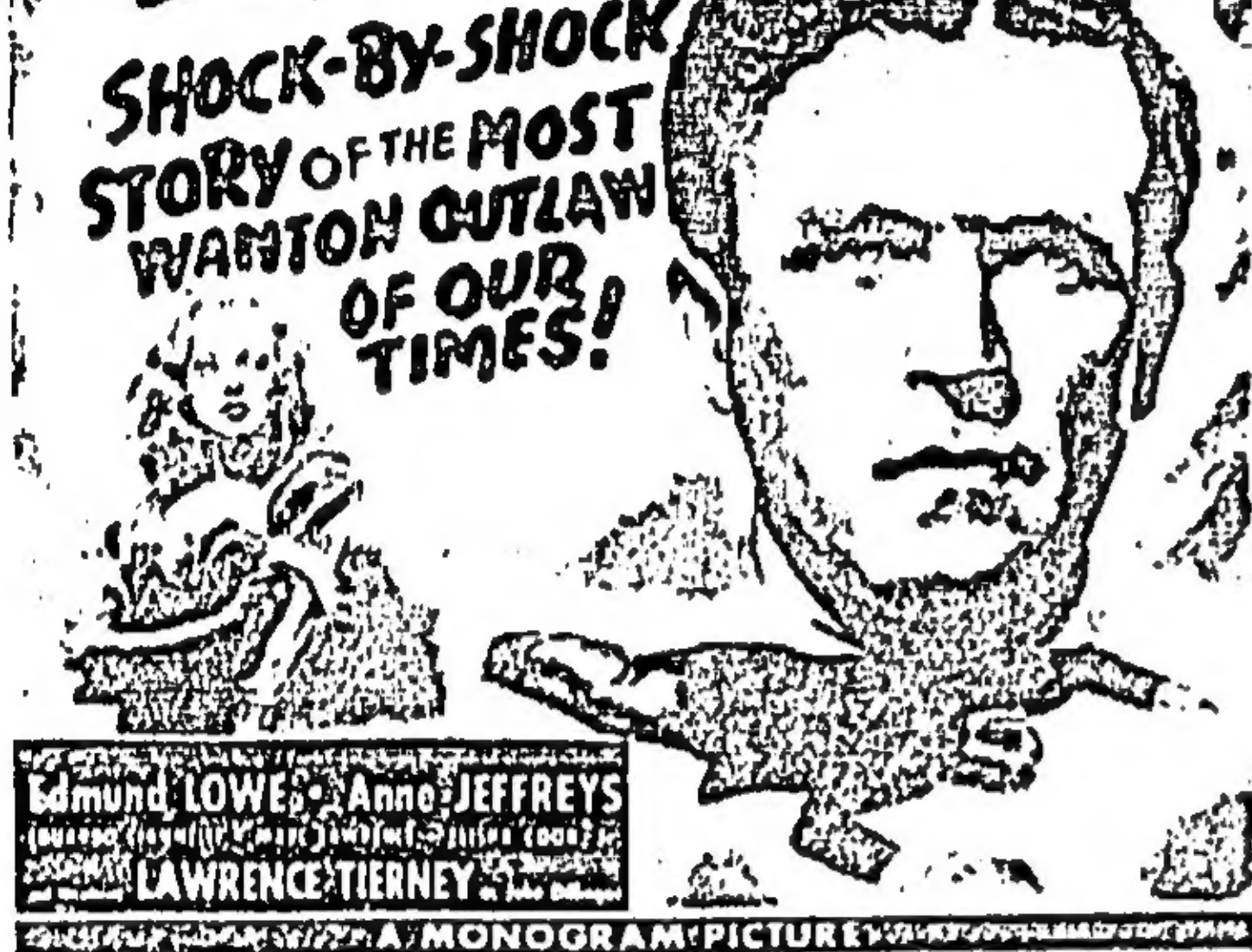
Death Toll Mounting In Philippines 'Quake

Manila, Jan. 25.—The Philippine Red Cross today rushed relief workers and medical supplies to Panay Island, where an earthquake described as the worst in Philippine history shook down homes, churches and walls and opened great fissures in the ground.

At least 14 persons were killed. Unconfirmed reports to the Philippine Constabulary said at least 21 people were killed in Iloilo Province, apparently the hardest hit. It was reported officially that 12 men were killed when the 100-foot tower of Jaro Cathedral collapsed. Jaro is a suburb of Iloilo City.

Policemen were known to have been killed when the municipal building collapsed at Astyria on Negros Occidental Island. A woman was crushed to death by a falling wall in Alimodian in Iloilo. At least 15 were seriously hurt; three or four slightly injured, but refused to be taken to hospital.

Cracks opened up and reportedly ruined many railway lines. The collapse of many buildings, however, was partly attributed to damage suffered during the war.—United Press.

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DIALOGUE IN MANDARIN

FIRST PART

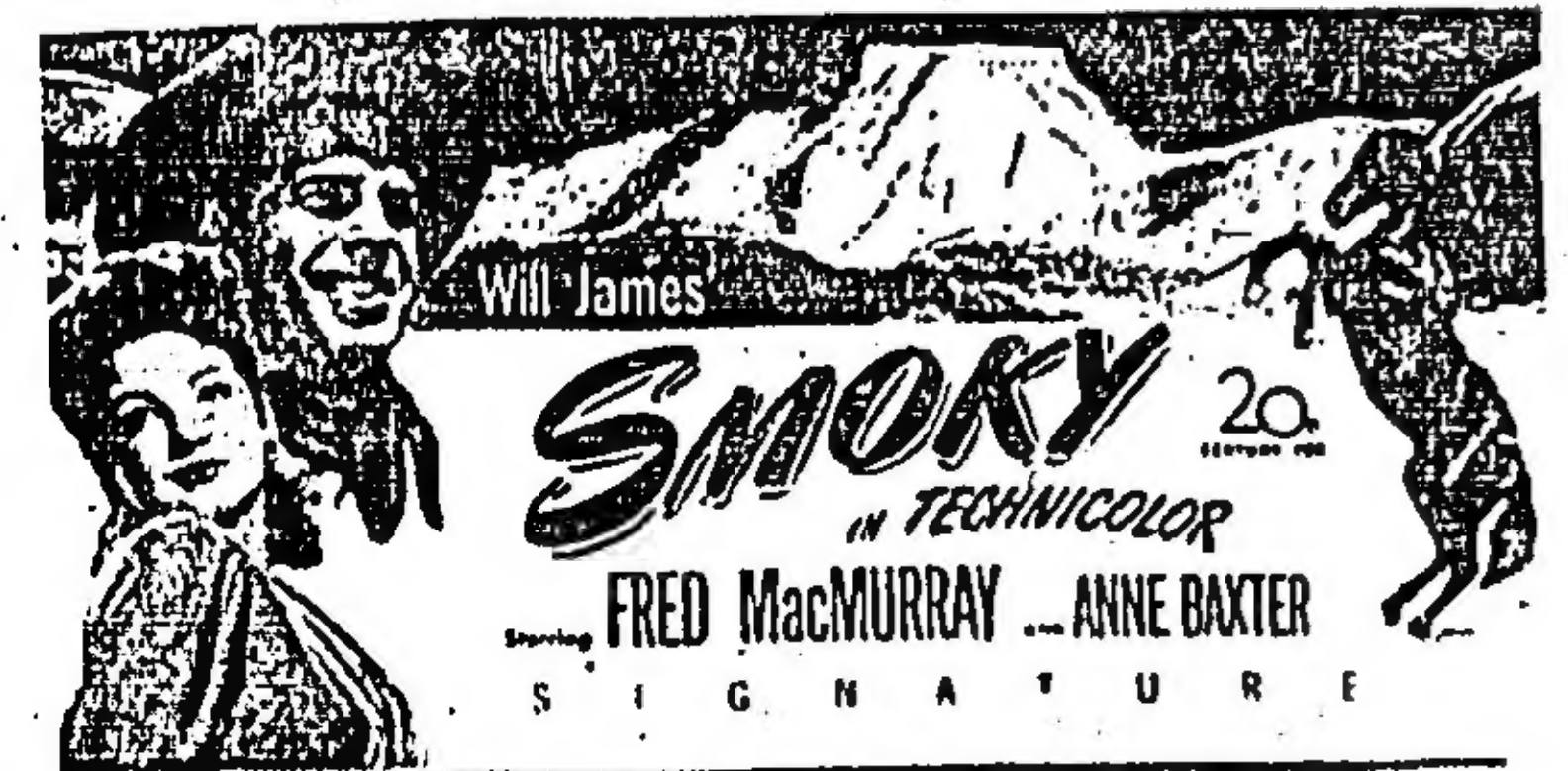
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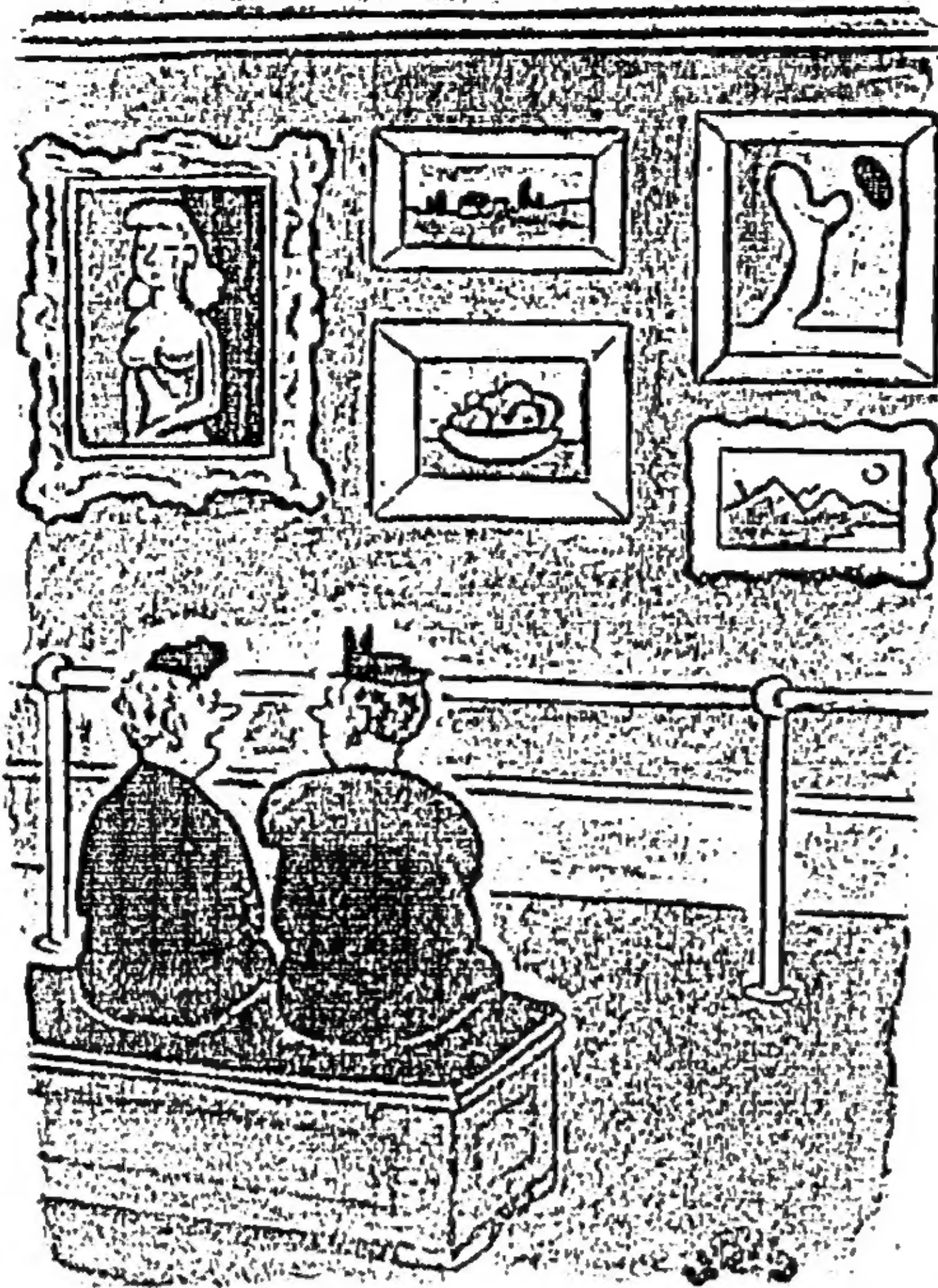
A VERY EXCITING PICTURE OF THE WEST!



Next Change: "GUADALCANAL DIARY"

Communist Plan For Germany

By DENIS MARTIN



"Of course, I like Picasso, Matisse and Cézanne, but to tell you the truth, I just came in because my feet are killing me!"

Henry Wallace did not impress British politicians

By ERNEST THURTELL, M.P.

MR HENRY WALLACE announces his intention of standing for election to the American Presidency this year, so that voters will be offered a third choice, in addition to the regular Democratic and Republican candidates.

In Parliament a mere Englishman hardly presumes to intervene when Scottish business is under discussion, and with stronger reason I suppose a Briton should be chary of butting into the internal affairs of the Americans.

But perhaps one may be permitted to say that if Mr Wallace is to make any kind of showing at all, he will need to impress his fellow citizens far more favourably than he did a meeting of British M.P.s in the first half of last year.

This largely attended meeting provoked something like a sensation by reason of the very poor impression created by the speaker.

Mr Wallace, much publicised by his friends as a Messianic political figure, astonished his audience by his ineptitude.

He was nebulous, halting, discursive and, so far as international affairs were concerned, positively naive in some of the views he expressed.

Even the fellow travellers who had assembled to hail this American Daniel came to judgment on the errors of British foreign policy were not impressed by his performance, and felt the meeting subdued, if not shocked.

It is unusual for a back bench like Mr Kirkwood to have a Privy Counsellorship conferred upon him.

But then Davie ("Big Davie" to his Scots colleagues) is an unusual back bench.

For one thing he has an unbroken period of 25 years' service in the House.

For another, he has been an outstanding Scots character all that time, responsible for a great number of vigorous and dramatic speeches.

He is quieter now, but in the old days his tempestuous oratory was truly arresting.

Even when his burring voice was in full oratorical spate the quality of his language always impressed.

It was strong, Biblical English, often with a poetical strain running through it.

And to hear David, quoting, full-throated, "A man's a man for a' that," is a genuine democratic thrill.

DETAILS of the Bill for the redistribution of parliamentary seats and other electoral reforms are likely to be made public in the next few weeks, as it is the Government's intention to pass the measure into law this session.

It is a matter of considerable domestic interest to M.P.s, since it involves the blotting out of some seats and the amalgamation of others, a situation calculated to give rise to personal rivalries within parties, though such rivalry is not perhaps an entirely new factor in politics.

The publication of the Bill will also reveal to us what is in the Government's mind on such questions as plural voting and university representation, about which there is much curiosity.

HOW STANDS BRITAIN? is the question title of the new official exhibition at Charing Cross.

The 1948 answer is that Britain is all right, and can do great things, if she will only stand firm in the face of her own power and possibilities.

She must reject alike the evils of appeasement and truculence, and show a firm front to enemies abroad and at home who seek to harm her.

Naught shall make us rue, in fact, if Britain to herself do rest, but true.

N EARLY three years have passed since Russian tanks came finally to a halt in Berlin and the new political leaders of Germany emerged from concentration camps, hiding and exile to start life again.

Today, the great political parties and the vaster trade unions dominate the German scene.

They form the essential clue to the apparent inability of the four Foreign Ministers to get down to brass tacks.

There is ample evidence to suggest that Mr Molotov believes he has a trump card up his sleeve in the two massive and efficient organisations built up in the Russian zone for the economic and political conquest of Germany.

These organisations are the Socialist Unity Party and the League of Free German Trade Unions. In complete command of the situation in the Russian zone, and boasting numerous powerful offshoots in the League of Free German Youth, the League of German Women and similar institutions, they are in full cry for a "push to the West" and the blessing of an All-German status.

In these circumstances, the speeches of Mr Molotov, ringing strange and unreal in the Conference room, become quite clear when they are interpreted as what they are—speeches to a German audience, championing the cause of the German workers.

Infiltration?

BACK in Berlin and the Russian zone, chains of newspapers, well supplied with newsprint, networks of magazines and pamphlets and batteries of radio stations bring Mr Molotov to German ears.

The Red Army administration of Germany is apparently convinced that there exists in the Russian zone sufficient machinery to achieve, by infiltration, a central German Government of its own design.

The rise to power of the Socialist Unity Party and the League of Free German Trade Unions has been achieved by methods which, at times, bear a disturbing resemblance to tactics pursued in the days of Hitler.

The Communists could muster only a handful of leaders at the end of the war.

Their one course—and they fought for this with typical fanaticism—was to achieve a united front with the powerful Social Democratic Party, which was, and is, the cornerstone of working-class political policy in postwar Germany.

The first phase, in a campaign for international Socialism, came with the formation of an anti-Fascist front of all four Parties in the Russian zone and Berlin.

Then, in the spring of 1946, a fusion of the Social Democratic and Communist Parties in the Russian zone was "arranged."

Hundreds of Socialist leaders resigned, and thousands of members joined other political organisations, but the new Party—the Socialist Unity Party—had come to stay, and from that day Social Democracy has been forbidden in the Russian Zone.

In Berlin things were different. Here the three Western Powers were not satisfied that the merger did, in fact, represent the wishes of the workers.

The acid test came with the famous plebiscite, when the Social Democrats of Berlin were asked what they thought about the fusion issue.

The Russians banned voting in the eight boroughs under their control, but in the twelve remaining boroughs 10,529 Social Democrats voted against amalgamation with the Communists and only 2,937 said "Yes." Eighty-two per cent of the Party members voted.

Part of history

THEN, in October, 1946, the capital polled for the municipal elections. The overwhelming Social Democratic victory in these elections has already become part of German history: 848,743 people voted for the Social Democrats.

Christian Democrats came next with 431,916 votes, and the Socialist Unity Party, for all its support from the Russians, could muster only 283,182 votes.

In open, outspoken opposition to the Molotov plan for infiltration through the political parties and trade unions, stand the leaders of the Social Democrats, and the Christian Democrats in Western Germany.

Opponent No. 1 of the "Unity" men is Gaust, one-armed Kurt Schumacher, who spent ten years in a concentration camp and now leads the Social Democratic Party.

Accusing the Socialist Unity Party of attempting to justify the jackboot as a means of political government, Schumacher is still the leading political figure of Western Germany. As early as March, 1946, he exposed the Communist unity campaign in Berlin as "an attempt to force Communist leadership on the Socialist masses."

"The Communists," he told a party congress, "want to put the clock back 14 years. In this endeavour, they have one thing in common with Prussian officers—Iron discipline."

Fight goes on

FALL to the right, the Christian Democrats share the opposition of the Social Democrats to the Communist bid to capture Germany.

In the turbulence of the reparations crisis the struggle for domination is now centred in the Trade Unions, but even here the Communists have still failed to capture any significant following in the Ruhr Valley and the industrial regions of the British Zone.

The fight goes on. This is the main issue of postwar Germany.

Mr Molotov thinks he has the answer. But there are others, including millions of Germans, who believe that a Russian solution and the type of Government foreseen by the Russians would be a disaster for Europe.

POCKET CARTOON
by OSBERT LANCASTER

"See here, can't you ever express determination without making that un-American gesture with the right hand?"

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

ONCE upon a time a man said, if he liked what he was eating, "This is delicious." Then came the jargon of the bureaucrats, "This is a palatable and nutritious intake of food-stuffs."

Then, recently, Mr Strachey, while testing a new food, is reported to have said, "This ratatouille, in Britain," which, I suppose, is the latest way of expressing enjoyment of food—or rather "diet." How glad I am that no pretty actress when I was young ever looked up from her plate at Romano's to say, "This ratatouille is in Britain."

There should be a documentary film of the Food Minister chewing an egg made of processed tree-bark, and saying, "This makes all Britain ribollavin-conscious and starch-minded."

In passing

AMONG some old papers I found the other day a faded and tattered copy of the "Inis." I wondered why I had kept it, until I saw the date, May 24, 1913 (will my biographers please make a note of it?). Turning the pages I came to my first published poem. And I recalled how somebody, in my father's club had shown it to him. My father read it and said, "So that's what he's doing at Oxford."

Afternoon tea and kisses

STILL going through life as though it were a charade, Captain Foulencourt embarrassed Vita Brevis the other day by getting himself announced as "M. Hotspot from the Korean Embassy." Vita was at tea with her mother, who exclaimed, "How thrilling!" and chattered so much that her daughter could not explain. The Captain wore a long dress—brown of black silk. When introduced to Lady Brevis he clicked his heels, kissed her hand with a loud smack, and said: "Too charming, no, too charming, yes?" He then produced a little mouse from a brown bag, and offered it to Vita. "A bombalunka off da Korean Embassy," he said. Vita gave a little scream, and the next moment the Captain had her tight in his arms, and was crowing into her ear. "But, no, ma leetle sweetheart, I, Hotspot, shall defend you against this wild mouse, no?" And before the astonished eyes of the mother, he kissed her heartily and repeatedly.

COST OF THE CROWN

by
Alan Clarke

CIVIL List expenditure now means the money payable to maintain the Crown. In old times the phrase meant something quite different.

There are four classes of Civil List charges.

The first is His Majesty's Privy (or private) Purse. This is the King's own personal income. For the financial year 1946-7 this was £30,661 9s. 11d.

THE KING'S PURSE

The second class is salaries of the King's Household and retired allowances (£134,000).

Third, the expenses of the Household (£152,000), and fourth, the Royal Bounty, Aims and Special Services (£13,200). Accounts for Royal Household expenditure are audited by the Exchequer.

There is an entirely distinct expenditure, voted separately by Parliament, on Civil List pensions.

These are payable to famous men of letters, scientists, actors, artists or their dependents who have fallen on hard times.

The Financial Secretary to the Treasury is responsible both to the King and to Parliament for Civil List pensions.

At present there are 220 Civil List pensioners who last year received a total of £30,071 10s. 2d. from public funds.

All Civil List expenditure and the annuities voted separately, which are paid to members of the Royal Family (Queen Mary receives £70,000), come from the Treasury's Consolidated (or central) Fund.

The reason why the term "Civil List" is still applied to the Royal expenditure and for pensions is a legacy from history.

Until the Restoration in 1660 all expenses of Government, civil and military, were met from the Royal revenue (rent of Crown lands and various Royal hereditary taxes and rights).

At the Restoration, it was decided to distinguish between war expenses and the cost of civil establishments and Government. The civil ex-

penses became known as the Civil List.

In George III's reign Civil List expenditure amounted to £1,030,000, compared with £330,000 today. From this sum were paid such things as the salaries of the Chancellor, the judges, important officers of State and Ambassadors.

George III surrendered some hereditary revenue to the Crown, and when George IV came to the throne about £250,000 of the nation's expenditure was transferred from the King's account.

SORTING A TANGLE

It was not until 1830 that a Select Committee of the House of Commons was appointed to separate the tangled finances of the Crown and the nation. The result was an Act of Parliament for the regulation of the Civil List.

The financial switch-over was completed by Queen Victoria on her accession. She surrendered all hereditary revenues of the Crown for life in consideration of a yearly payment charged against the Consolidated Fund.

Since then the term Civil List has covered only legislation to provide finance for the Royal Family.

NANCY A Steaming Idea

By Ernie Bushmiller



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Fitch's
DANDRUFF REMOVER
SHAMPOO
&
QUINOL

SOLE AGENTS: NAN KANG CO. UNION BLDG. H.

PHOTOSTRIP SERIAL—No. 19

HOW A HOLLYWOOD STAR IS BORN ★

SYNOPSIS:

Catherine, who was singing into an off-stage microphone under a table, while "The Blonde" faked singing on the stage, finally comes out into the open and does the singing for herself.



At last Catherine Brown has the spotlight. She moves about in the audience—waiting as she sings merrily. Then she goes up on the stage to sing. It is a show of shows, with stars, stars and more stars on the programme—nothing but stars, and

Catherine is among them. Alan Ladd and Dorothy Lamour are among the stars on the programme. Director George Marshall has them do a big musical number together. William Demarest is the ring master for the show, and he calls the crowd over to see the "strongman" act of William Bendix.

billed as "Hercules." Demarest says that "Hercules" has the strength of ten African gorillas—and almost twice the intelligence. "Hercules" Bendix is followed by many more wonderful acts. (To be continued tomorrow)

BEAUTY ARTS

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Rosalind Russell for Lois Leeds.

Follow these Three Steps to Beauty!

THREE STEPS TO BEAUTY!

Here are three steps to beauty! This Rule of Three is Cleansing, Toning and Smoothing. These are simple, basic rules which even the busiest woman can follow. Let these three beauty steps become a part of your daily life. This will not be boring or tiresome. It will make

you lovely and what woman could be bored by beauty, even though she follows Three Steps to attain it!

Cleansing is the first and most important step. Make your selection after a good trial of both methods—soap and water or cleansing cream. I believe that cleansing cream will do the best beauty job for all women except those who have "problem skins."

Your second step is Toning. Your skin must be toned and braced. I believe in this for each and every day and then, when you are older, you will not have drooping contours and heavy chin lines.

Whether your skin is dry or oily, stimulated circulation is important to firm and tighten the skin and muscles. Use a mild skin toning lotion if your skin is dry and you are not yet forty. If your skin is oily, loose, and flabby, use an astringent, one which will really tone your skin.

The third step in your plan is to use a cream which will smooth and lubricate your skin. A rich cream is necessary for this smoothing process. Always apply the cream on your throat as well as on your face. Put it in well with your fingertips. If the skin is especially dry and lined, add a small amount of cosmetic oil to your cream. A good mineral oil is also excellent. Use four ounces of the oil to a one-pound jar of cream.

You may Cleanse, Tone and Smooth your face and throat every night and every morning with very little effort. The results will be swift and sure!

Minute Makeup
by GABRIELLE



To acquire the small waist and rounded hips, try a poplum suit. Put the poplum at the hip line. It will flare out smartly and it will make your waistline look smaller!

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"Your grandfather and I lived in a barn for a while after we were married—but I guess you wouldn't have much room in a garage!"

Girl's Legacy To Man She Loved Is Upheld

Back home at Chelmsford after two days in the Law Courts, Mr Robert Harvey Currie told a reporter: "I am satisfied. I did my duty to my dead daughter. Now I want to forget the case and the unpleasantness."

Three hours before he had heard Mr Justice Hodson uphold a will made by his 33-year-old daughter Elizabeth in favour of a married man with whom she was said to have been in love.

The decision meant that he must hand over 6,000 £1 shares in his paint business and the residue of £10,000 left by his daughter to Mr Claude Dixon, a Chelmsford tax clerk.

The residue included another 1,000 shares in R. H. Currie, Ltd., which Mr Currie built up from almost nothing to a £100,000 firm after leaving Scotland 50 years ago.

Some years back he distributed sections of shares among his children. He and his wife contested Miss Currie's will on the ground that she was not of sound mind, memory or understanding when she signed it, or

that she did not know or approve of its contents.

Mrs Dixon, who wept most of the time, sat behind the Curries in court. Her tall, middle-aged husband sat on the opposite end of the Curries' bench.

Mr Dixon told the judge she left her husband in December 1943, because of the attachment between him and Miss Currie.

Mind Sound

Giving judgment, Mr Justice Hodson said Miss Currie, who suffered from a glandular disease, must have known she was dying when she made the will.

But she had faced the world courageously and there was no doubt that her mental condition was perfectly sound.

Mr Currie seemed convinced that his daughter would never have made the will except under the orders of a man with whom she felt herself to be in love—Mr Dixon.

It was clear that Mr Currie, having regard to the contempt and dislike he felt for Mr Dixon, would have found it painful to carry out his daughter's wishes.

No Evidence

"I doubt whether anything I say will shift the conviction from Mr Currie's mind," said the judge, "that there is something suspicious about Mr William John Bailey (the solicitor who drew up the will) because Mr Currie thought Mr Bailey was a friend of Mr Dixon and that they were hand-in-glove together."

Mr Bailey was not a close friend and there was no cause for suspicion. The allegation that Miss Currie was under the domination of Mr Dixon was not supported by any evidence at all.

The defence had no substance, and his lordship pronounced in favour of the will.

Nepal Medicine Men Back

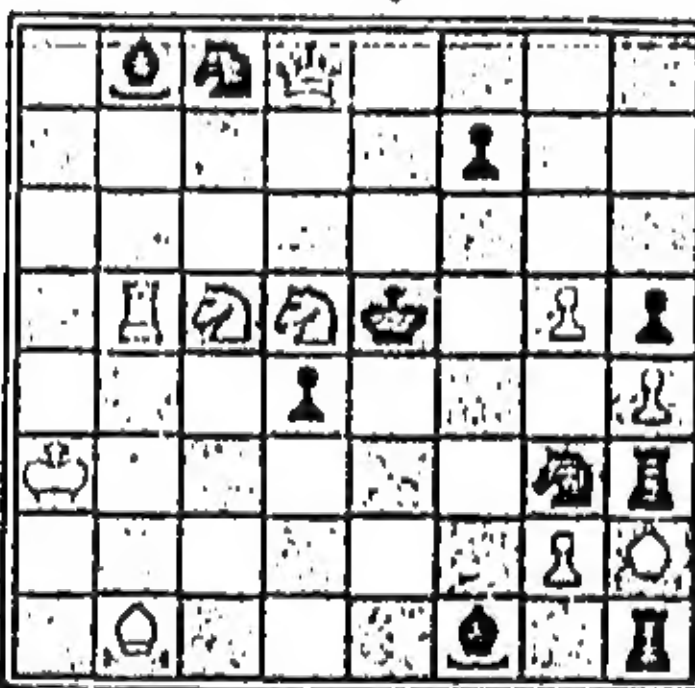
Medicine men from Nepal—self-styled experts in herbal medicine, charms, magic (both black and white) and fortune-telling—are back in Malaya for the first time since the war.

Their trail has taken them southward through India, Burma and Siam, and it will be many years before they can find their way home again.

Dressed in a conglomeration of costumes of their own and the countries they have visited, these mountain gypsies spread their wares on the streets and camp by night in the corridors of public buildings, in unoccupied dwellings and in jungle shacks. During working hours, they appear to spend more time gazing at the sights than in peddling their wares.

The leader of the band in Singapore at present is the most sophisticated of the lot. He speaks, besides his own tongue, Hindustani, Bengali, Burmese, Siamese and Malay.—Associated Press.

CHESS PROBLEM

By A. THORSSON
Black, 10 pieces.

White, 10 pieces.
White to play and mate in two.
Solution to Saturday's problem:
1. K-K6. 1... K-K7. 2. P-B4 (ch); 1... K-K4; 2. K-B7 (ch); 1... K-Q2; 2. B-K16 (ch); 1... P-Q6; 2. B-B8 (ch).

WAS OUTSTANDING

Outstanding discovery of British athletics season during the past summer was Captain Harry Whittaker, who, when not competing for British Army teams, runs and jumps in the colours of Reading Athletic Club. He came right to the fore with two most unexpected victories in the British national meeting at the White City, London, winning the long jump title with a leap of 7.15 metres and then the 440 yards low hurdles final in 55 seconds.

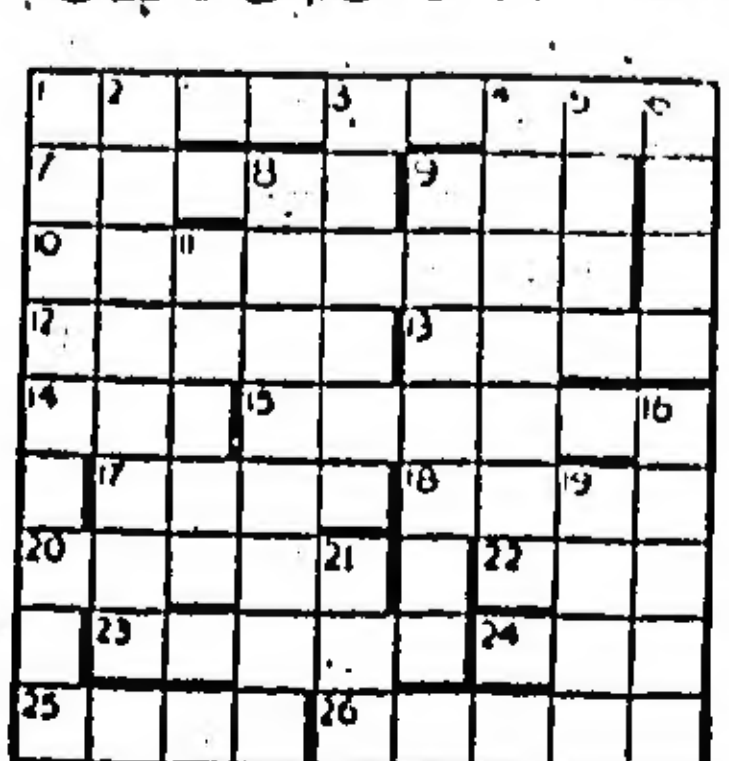
Rupert and the Big Bang—26



Rupert hurries away with the third squib. "That Bingo's an unlucky chap," he mutters. "Everything he does seems to go wrong. Why didn't that second squib just fizz and sparkle like the first one? He'll be upset when he knows I've not kept my promise." At length Bingo's secret hide-out comes in sight, and again Rupert has a shock for, as he watches, a great cloud of smoke is shot up from the very middle of the old broken-down ruin!

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



13. Were you using the jug? (4)
14. Hurried. (3)
15. Continued from time to time. (4)
16. "Hated not learning worse than they or sap" (Milton). (4)
17. They were amusing to the servants. (4)
18. A country lane. (5)
19. A word of pardon. (5)
20. Metal. (3)
21. The correct shade for Satin. (5)
22. Down
23. He has a strapping effect on the sea. (3, 6)
24. The old part in the Bismarck. (8)
25. Plans appear to have failed away. (4)
26. Inke on terms. (4)
27. Empire. (4)
28. Some cars that slaughter. (8)
29. Get thy beer by that means. (4)
30. No use in this backward street. (4)
31. Lewis in the thoroughfare. (5)
32. Rules for certain. (4)
33. Hexes letters. (3)

Across
1. Though it acts as a searchlight it sounds the very opposite. (7)
2. This pod may split three ways. (3)
3. Upset the home trap. (8)
4. Consecrate. (5)

CENTRAL & ALHAMBRA

DAILY AT 2:30 5:30 7:30 & 9:30 P.M. DAILY AT 2:30 5:30 7:30 & 9:30 P.M.
● FINAL SHOWINGS TO-DAY ●

AN ADVENTURE WITHOUT PARALLEL!

Gary Cooper
IN HIS MOST DARING, HIS MOST WONDERFUL ROLE

"CLOAK AND DAGGER"
PRODUCED BY UNITED ARTISTS
FOR W. W. ROSS

WITH ROBERT ALDA
DIRECTED BY FRITZ LANG

● OPENING TO-MORROW ●
CENTRAL ALHAMBRA

"BLACK NARCISSUS" IN TECHNICOLOR
"BORN FOR TROUBLE" with VAN JOHNSON

SHOWING TO-DAY MAJESTIC AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

An M-G-M Hit

More Thrilling in its Beauty than "Lassie Come Home"

LASSIE
IN A NEW ADVENTURE
"Courage of LASSIE"
ELIZABETH TAYLOR
Frank MORGAN-Tom DRAKE

DIRECTED BY FRED M. WILCOX
PRODUCED BY ROBERT SISK

TO-DAY ONLY Cathay At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

THE PARAMOUNT MUSICAL COMEDY OF ALL TIME!
A MILLION LAUGHS! 7 SONGS! 40 TOP STARS!

"STAR SPANGLED RHYTHM"

with

Bing CROSBY • Betty HUTTON • Bob HOPE
Ray MILLAND • Dorothy LAMOUR • Paulette GODDARD

DOUBLE ATTRACTIONS TO-MORROW
Derek FARR "TEHERAN" also in Technicolor
Marta LABARR in

STAR
Phone 56335

2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW

CHARLES BOYER-JOAN FONTAINE

ALEXIS SMITH

CONSTANTIN

FIVE SHOWS • SPECIAL MATINEE

Special Play by Authors from the West and Play by Eugene O'Neill and Bertolt Brecht • Seats for Early Bookings

WEDNESDAY JAN. 28

"WINGED VICTORY"

Edmond O'Brien • Jeanne Crain

WANTS HIS

SKYSCRAPER

RETURNED

The owner of Singapore's

single skyscraper wants it back.

Since the liberation of the city in

September 1945, the Cathay Building

has been occupied by various

army and governmental offices, in-

cluding those of Lord Killiney,

Special Commissioner for Southeast

Asia, and the Governor-General,

Mr Malcolm MacDonald.

Now the owner, Loke Wan Tho, is

asking that the official tenants

vacate in order that the structure

may be restored to civilian use,

principally as residential flats. At

present, only the cinema on the

ground floor is in commercial use.

Loke says that the army and

government occupants have out-

They
Answered
the
Call

Have
You?

Send your
donation to
the

HONGKONG
WAR
MEMORIAL
FUND

Hon. Treasurers
Lowe, Bingham & Matthews.
Mercantile Bank Bldg.

stayed the agreed period of their lease, have caused considerable damage to the interior of the 17-story structure, and are actually using some of the quarters as residences instead of offices. He adds that he has offered alternative accommodation.

The occupants' reply is that they are not staying beyond the specified period, that they actually have made extensive repairs, particularly in the portico occupied in 1946 by Lord Louis Mountbatten's SEAC staff, and that Loke's offer of alternative quarters comes as a bit of news to them. They show no inclination to leave before the end of 1948.—Associated Press.

Yugoslavs Begin Demolition Of Luxury Ship

Trieste, Jan. 25.—The Yugoslavs on Saturday resumed the work of dismantling the former luxury liner, Rex, beached in the bay of Capodistria, 15 miles south of here in the Yugoslav zone of the free territory.

Originally started a year ago, the demolition work was suspended in October last after a series of Italian protests.

A tugboat and pontoon were tied on Saturday to the liner, which was struck by Allied bombs during the war, in preparation for reported completion of the work.—United Press.

AUSTRALIA'S ANTARCTIC ACTIVITIES

Canberra, Jan. 25.—Dr. Herbert Evatt, Australian Minister for External Affairs, today announced that the refitted Polar exploration ship, Wyatt Earp, will set out from Melbourne on February 6 on her resumed Antarctic expedition.

The 402-ton Wyatt Earp left for the Antarctic in mid-December but had to be recalled at the beginning of January after developing a leak in her hull in a storm.

She will go on a reconnaissance trip between longitude 140 and longitude 150 in the eastern sector of the Antarctic continent, especially in the regions of the Mertz and Nimis glaciers.

Dr. Evatt said the old magnetic station in Commonwealth Bay will be reoccupied, if possible, otherwise magnetic observations will be taken in another suitable region.

On her return voyage, the Wyatt Earp will survey the little-known group of the Balleny Islands.

The navy landing craft LST 3501, after being in dock for repairs for plates damaged on Heard Island, in the Southern Indian Ocean, where she landed a party of scientists in December, will leave Melbourne for Macquarie Islands in late February for a land party of 14 scientists who will remain there throughout the winter, Dr. Evatt said.—Reuter.

TWO WORLD SKI TITLES CAPTURED BY SWEDEN

St. Moritz, Jan. 25.—Sweden carried off the first two places in the international slalom skiing event at Pontresina today with Olle Dalman finishing first in the time of 52.6 seconds. Arc Nilsson was second in 53.4 seconds.

There was a tie for third place between Stig Sollander, of Sweden, Luba Ourehol, of Czechoslovakia, and Bagney McLean, of the United States, each having times of 53.8 seconds.

Borells Niskin, of Norway, won the women's slalom race in one minute 2.6 seconds. There was a tie for second place between Alexandra Nejedlikova and May Nilsson, each recording one minute 5.4 seconds.

Wilhelm Hellman, of Sweden, won the ski jumping event with 220.2 points. Gordon Wren, of the United States, was second with 217.4 points and Fritz Tschirner, of Switzerland, third with 217.2 points.

Bagney McLean of the United States won the men's combined event.—Reuter.

LUCKNOW TENNIS

Lucknow, Jan. 25.—The Swedish lawn tennis players, Lennart Bergelin and Torsten Johansson, won their matches in the men's singles quarter-finals of the United Provinces Lawn Tennis championships today.

Bergelin beat S. H. Mirza 6-1, 6-0, and Johansson beat Mannohan 6-2, 6-4.

In the men's doubles, Bergelin and Johansson beat M. Kaul and Afzal Hussain 6-3, 6-2.—Reuter.

SOCCER IN CAIRO

Cairo, Jan. 25.—Uppset, the Hungarian soccer team, beat a combined Port Said and Cairo eleven by three goals to two in the fourth game of their Egyptian tour.

Fifteen thousand spectators saw them lead 2-1 at halftime through Susa and Dods. Alduzvi scored a goal for the local team.

In the second half, Susa scored another for the Hungarians and Alduzvi reduced arrears.—Reuter.

INDOOR MILE RECORD

Boston, Jan. 25.—The world's indoor mile king, Gil Dodds, galloped his 20th straight victory when he won the 16th annual indoor mile by 60 yards in 4 minutes 3.4 seconds, shattering the Boston indoor record.

The fleet person breezed to the tape at least 60 yards from Bill Hulse, of the New York Athletic Club, who was second.

Bill Mack, of Michigan, edged out Larry Ellis, of the New York University, for third place.

Never hindered, Dodds jogged along in fourth for one lap and then moved smoothly to the front. He

Chinese Reds Have Eye On Kwangtung

BY ROBERT CLURMAN

Hankow, Jan. 25.—The slow, but so far unchecked, infiltration of Communist units from north of the Yellow River down to the banks of the Yangtse River will engulf all of China in civil war within a year if it continues at the present rate, neutral observers here assert.

Stalin Dismisses Adviser

New York, Jan. 25.—Professor Eugene Varga, leading Soviet economist, had been dismissed from an important post, and 20 other Soviet economists were in disgrace for adopting views on foreign relations opposed to the Communist Party line, the New York Times today declared.

The New York Times, stating its report was based on official Soviet publications made available by a Russian Marxist economist who wished to remain anonymous, said Professor Varga, formerly Marshal Stalin's personal economic adviser, incurred official disfavor for a book in which he advocated Soviet collaboration with Anglo-American capitalism.

In his book, no copies of which were available outside the Soviet Union, the New York Times said, Professor Varga declared there was no economic crisis impending for capitalism, and that the Soviet Union and Anglo-American capitalism could and should collaborate.

As a result of the book's publication, the paper said, Professor Varga was dismissed from his post as director of the Institute of World Economics in the Soviet Academy of Sciences.—Reuter.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers
1. Because they prey on small animals and birds and are so called on account of the effective way in which they kill their victims. 2. No. 4. The Malay Peninsula of South-eastern Asia. 5. Edam, Holland. 6. It was inaugurated November 22, 1935.

BELGIAN VIEW OF ALLIANCE

Brussels, Jan. 25.—M. Paul Henri Spaak, the Belgian Prime Minister, declared here today the time had come to decide "who will be our friends and allies."

"The time has come to make a choice," he said, speaking at a banquet of the Socialist Journalists Association in Brussels.

"After having hesitated for more than three years in order not to awaken Soviet Russia's susceptibilities, we have to ask ourselves whether or not we desire the creation of a Western bloc," M. Spaak declared, referring to the suggested Western alliance proposed by Mr. Ernest Bevin.

"We have arrived at a crucial moment when we have to make a choice of paramount importance, bearing in it grave consequences for our country, for Europe, and for the world."

Mr. Bevin's speech signified, "Are you willing to participate in a Western bloc?" M. Spaak said, adding, "Our choice must not be made in a spirit of hostility towards Soviet Russia."

"Eastern Europe is organized. Russia has extended herself as far as the Baltic countries and has established her influence in Eastern Europe to such an extent that one speaks of a Balkan Federation or a Federation of Danube States. Western Europe cannot remain inactive."—Reuter.

They add that on the basis of Gen. Pai Chung-hai's performance since he took over the Central China Command, there is little reason to believe the Communist movement southward will be checked.

The Communist operations in Central China are aimed ultimately at reaching across the Yangtse to challenge Kuomintang control of southern China, these observers believe.

They characterize the three-fold campaign being waged by Generals Liu Po-cheng, Chen Yi and Chen Keung as "unquestionably the most significant military development of the Chinese civil war since the Soviet withdrawal from Manchuria." Far from representing a "retreat" from Shantung, which was the original interpretation given to the Communist Yangtse campaign by the government military spokesmen, these sources point out that the Communist operations in Central China have brought another major area into the civil war and have set the stage for large-scale Communist penetration south of the Yangtse into a region hitherto untouched by Red troops.

Successful Recruiting
Estimates of the number of Communist troops at present operating in the Yangtse Valley vary from 50,000 to 200,000 with the correct figure probably midway between the two. Gen. Liu Po-cheng has been doing intensive and highly successful recruiting in Honan, Hupei and Anhwei, and his present force is said to have swelled to twice its original size.

The immediate objective of Gen. Liu's forces is to move here to be to cross the Yangtse both east and west of Hankow to isolate the city from coal and iron supplies at Tachew, Shuihuiliao and Huanshihling, southeast of Hankow, which are vital to the Wuhan cities' industries. Tachew has the only operating iron foundry in Central China while Huanshihling is the only available coal source east of Szechuan.

With the Yangtse cut and the inevitable cutting of the Hankow Canton Railway, which is bound to occur shortly after the Communists cross the Yangtse, Hankow would be isolated except by air. The Peking-Hankow Railway already has been cut at several places between Chenchow and Hankow.

The long-range Communist objective in this area is said to be penetration into Kwangtung and Kwangsi, where the Reds are counting on a large number of dissident elements, including two independent armies, to help them pry loose South China from Kuomintang control.

The allegiance to the Kuomintang of General Bai Ting-kai and Li Chai-sen, both of whom control large independent forces in South China, has always been shaky. They were members of the "Kwangsi clique" which revolted against the Generalissimo in the thirties. It is considered highly possible that they would deal with the Communists if the Reds move into South China in large numbers.

Gen. Tsai heads the "Popular Army of Southern Kwangtung" which Marshal Li Chai-sen controls an armed force in Kwangsi known as "Democratic Allies Army."

The presence of a newly organized anti-Kuomintang group of generals in Hongkong in another potential ally for the Reds once they strike south of the Yangtse and additional incentive for them to concentrate on the South China campaign.—United Press.

DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA INSECURE

San Francisco, Jan. 25.—A Chinese government official warns Americans that democracy in the United States "is not as secure as many people think."

This warning came from Wu Shang-yang, Secretary-General of the Chinese Legislative Yuan. He came to San Francisco on his way back to Nanking after observations in the United States and Europe.

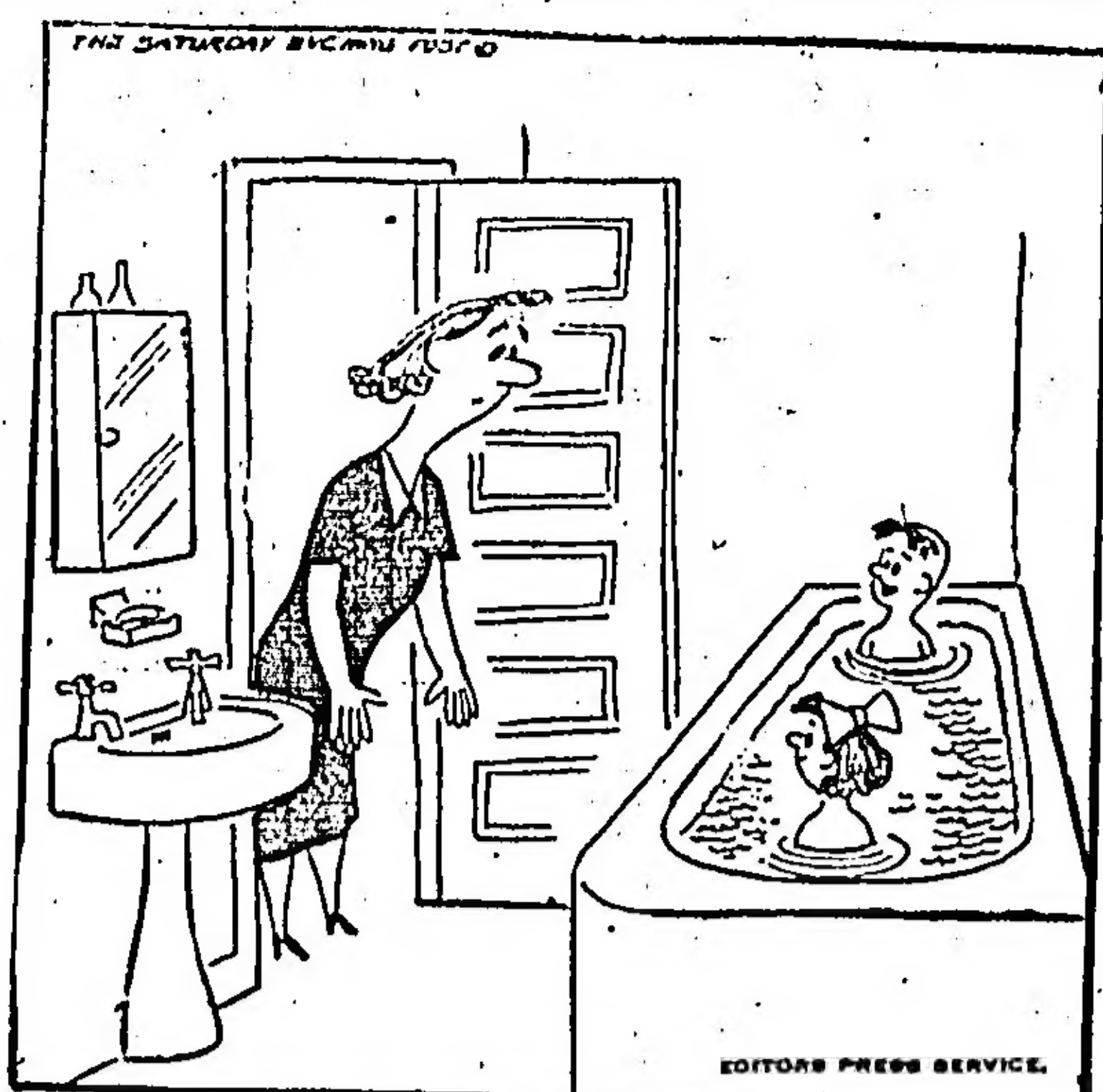
He attacked Communism but declared military might is not the way to defeat it.

"Communism is a world problem," he said. "What is being fought in China is only one segment of it. It is spreading both in China and in other parts of the world, but it must be controlled by economic as well as by military means."

"Communism is not suppressed by military means. It is essentially a system created by need for bread and butter—an economic problem."

He declared that there is "no such thing as reconciliation" between Communism and Democracy "as we know it."

Mr. Gutt said the Chinese people are impressed with the "Truman doctrine" of aid to Europe, and "we sincerely hope it will be extended to China as soon as possible." Associated Press.



"Mother, I'd like you to meet a very dear friend of mine."

Lord Woolton Attacks Labour Government

London, Jan. 25.—Lord Woolton, Chairman of the Conservative Party, last night accused the Labour Government of paving the way for totalitarianism.

NEED FOR MILITARY TRAINING

Washington, Jan. 25.—Defense Secretary James Forrestal said today that push-button warfare may be years away, but this country must be ready all the time and, meanwhile, mobilize large forces of trained men.

"I firmly believe that universal military training is the only effective democratic means of providing the necessary trained and ready reserves for such an emergency," he said. "In my opinion universal military training is absolutely essential for national safety."

Mr. Forrestal presented his views in a letter to the former Supreme Court Justice, Owen J. Roberts, chairman of the National Security Committee, which is a non-governmental organization of 55 groups favoring universal training.

Justice Roberts said he was tired of hearing that push-button warfare eliminated the need for universal military training, so he wrote Mr. Forrestal a letter. He was disturbed by the possible effects on public opinion of recently published charges by opponents of universal training that push-button warfare makes mass armies obsolete.—United Press.

The Bevin Plan Is Criticised

Teheran, Jan. 25.—The Marshall and Bevin plans spring from the same motive—a battleline against Communism—a Leftist Persian newspaper, Iran Ma, said today. "This union will not promote peace," it added.

The Democrat "Iran" called the British Foreign Secretary's proposals for the broad idea of a Western European union a "direct reply to Soviet Russia, which virtually forced a union of eastern Europe and is a grave danger to world peace."—Reuter.

FRANCE DEVALUES FRANC

(Continued From Page 1)
tion of hidden French gold and dollar resources.

"The Fund was not, however, able to agree to the inclusion, in a market with fluctuating rates, of any part of the proceeds of exports, as, in its judgment, this entailed the risk of a serious adverse effect on the other members of the Fund without being necessary to achieve the trade objectives sought by the French authorities."

The Fund felt that there would be scope for competitive depreciation in the application by one country of a fluctuating rate on exports to one area, while other rates remained stable and other countries maintained the parties agreed with the Fund.

Such a system, operating in an important trading country, would encourage trade distortions and might cast an unwarranted doubt on the real strength of many currencies through an apparent discount applied to them in the French system.

DEVALUATION NECESSARY

The Fund feared that the widespread adoption of such a system would result in exchange uncertainty and instability and produce a disorderly exchange situation from which all members of the Fund would suffer.

While recognising the difficulties of the French position, the Fund felt that a solution must be found through co-operative efforts to place currencies on a sound and stable basis.

Mr. Gutt said the Fund fully agreed that the franc's devaluation was necessary and was prepared to agree to a realistic rate. He praised the budgetary and fiscal measures taken by France in recent months but expressed deep regret that the Fund's views had been ignored "by a country which collaborated so effectively

Young Britons

Referring to young Britons—"Just ordinary young men and women eager to put their savings into the building up of industry"—who were leaving the country for lack of opportunity, Lord Woolton said: "We need these people here: they are a race of pioneers."

"The spirit of the race demands room for expansion, and you do not get it in directed and nationalised industries."

The Conservatives would leave commerce as far as possible free from restrictions.

Lord Woolton, who is Britain's wartime Food Minister, said he would risk ending some rationing in Britain. "I believe we could do without bread rationing," he declared.—Reuter.

Wins Literary Prize

Lisbon, Jan. 25.—The Spanish writer, Florentino Perez Embid, won the official Portuguese literary prize "Camoes" worth 20,000 escudos, with a book entitled "El Mudejarismo en la Arquitectura Portuguesa de la Epoca Manuelina." He came to Portugal to receive the award.—United Press.

Republicans Begin Election Campaign

Washington, Jan. 25.—The national leaders of the Republican Party are gathered in Washington, formally to open their campaign to oust President Truman and the Democratic administration at the Presidential election in November.

SEEKING DE VALERA'S DOWNFALL

Dublin, Jan. 25.—Sean MacBride, leader of the new Clann Na Poblachta Party, today disclosed his programme which heretofore had been a closely guarded secret.

MacBride, who expects to bring the downfall of Eamon de Valera's government in the February 4 elections, told the United Press that the abolition of Ireland's partition is the ultimate objective of his party.

The way to win Northern Ireland's six counties from Britain, he said, is through a social welfare programme which would attract the North Ireland population.

He vigorously denied that his party is seeking trouble with the British Government, and insisted that the six northern counties could be won over by a constitutional approach.

MacBride called for better working conditions for farmers, which he hoped would result in an increased population. He proposed raising the school-leaving age from 14 to 16, and to provide free secondary university courses for all.

MacBride wants decentralisation of industry and agriculture and government departments. In the cultural sphere he proposed the creation of a national theatre and film industry.

The pale, thin lawyer, who looked tired after a countrywide tour, denied that any Communists are connected with his party and labelled such statements from members of De Valera's Finna Fall Party as an attempt to divert the people from the real issues.—United Press.

Pope's Peace Message

Personally Addressed To All People

Vatican City, January 25.—The Pope today decided to send a special "message of peace" to all the peoples of the world irrespective of creed or nationality—in his own handwriting, it was learned authoritatively.

In a special private audience granted to the London photographer, David Waddington, who took the first colour photograph of the Pope last month, Pius XII consented to write a personal message, a facsimile of which will be sent by radio photographic transmission.

The message will be put on the air from Rome on Tuesday morning and from London on Tuesday afternoon.

Great importance is attached to the first time that the Pope has officially addressed the world and people.

He will call on all peoples to direct all their energies towards achieving "peace and goodwill among men."

The message, which is written in English, will also form the frontispiece of a book entitled "Great Men," containing the lives of those who have worked for the betterment of the world.—Reuter.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Posts close 30 minutes earlier than the Ordinary Mail. If Mail close before 10 a.m. Registered and parcels will close at 5 p.m. on previous day.

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

Closing Times By Air
Bangkok 3.30 p.m.
Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, Canton, Kuchow, Hainan, Cebu, Calcutta, Karachi, Bombay, Madras, Swatow, Hong Kong, Fuzhou, 3.30 p.m.
Closing Times By Sea & Train
Bangkok (Sea) 2 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin & Shekhi (Sea) 1 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Straits (Sea) 2 p.m.
Manila (Sea) 3 p.m.
Tientsin (Kwongchowwan) (Sea) 4 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin & Shekhi (Sea) 4 p.m.
Kowloon (Sea) 5 p.m.
Canton (Train) 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

Closing Times By Air
Amoy 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.)
Shanghai 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.)
Bangkok, Hankow, Calcutta, Karachi, Hainan, Cebu, Calcutta, Karachi, Bombay, Madras, Swatow, Hong Kong, Fuzhou, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.)
Closing Times By Sea & Train
Bangkok (Sea) 2 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin & Shekhi (Sea) 8 a.m.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

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VOL. III NO. 22

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1948.

Price 20 Cents

NO DEVALUATION OF THE £

Radios Powered By Sun Forecast

New York, Jan. 26.—Mr. Frank Stanton, President Columbia Broadcasting System, predicted today that pocket radio sets, powered by the sun and small enough to fit in a pocket would be in use within 25 years. He said radios "no larger than a pocket watch and powered simply by exposure to sunlight alone" would bring the radio programmes of tomorrow.

"I think you can also count on having personal sending sets to carry around in your pocket, too," Mr. Stanton said. "You will be able to make your own broadcasts—to tell the family you will be late for dinner, for example."—United Press.

IRAQI PREMIER TO EXPLAIN

Baghdad, Jan. 26.—Saidi Saleh, the Iraqi Prime Minister, announced tonight on his return from London that he would explain fully the clauses of the new Anglo-Iraqi treaty and that the nation had the full right to accept or reject it.

"I appeal to the nation to keep peace and order until it understands the new treaty, and then to say the last word," he said in a radio broadcast.

The communique followed a four-hour meeting of the Cabinet and the Council of the Royal Palace here, earlier, when the treaty was discussed.

The Premier returned here today after signing at Portsmouth on Jan. 26 the new treaty with Britain, which the British had refused to ratify if it does not secure the rights of the country and the national aspirations of Iraq.

He explained details of the treaty to the meeting, at which Cabinet members and other officials, and methods of ending the present tense political situation in Iraq following last week's anti-British demonstration. —Reuter.

BUS STRIKE IN LANARKSHIRE

Lanark, Scotland, Jan. 26.—One thousand bus drivers and conductors went on strike today throughout Lanarkshire, in protest against the management of their working hours. Street car services and taxis can plyers were unable to get to work and production in some areas was severely curtailed.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

The Economist Drops A Brick

THE Economist, usually a well-informed periodical, cannot be credited with a notable contribution to the Kowloon City issue. It is clear that the paper has little idea of Kowloon's relation to the Colony, and still less about the so-called walled city dispute. There is no reason to believe that the world why Kowloon should have been handed back to China when Hongkong was re-occupied inasmuch that practically the whole of the mainland is leased territory which, in due course, will automatically return to China unless she wishes to extend the lease. The Economist displays its ignorance when it suggests that "every effort should be made without delay to clear up the legal dispute over the town." In the first place there is no town and in the second, there can be no argument about the legality of British jurisdiction. Whatever lines are followed in the diplomatic discussions now proceeding in Nanking, we cannot believe that the Chinese Government will seriously contend that the terms of the Peking Convention offer the slightest legal basis for Chinese claims of sovereignty over any part of Kowloon; a more practical and realistic attitude would be for Nanking to show approval of the proposed scheme to convert the disputed area into a public park, the amenities of which would be enjoyed by the Colony's Chinese. The Economist

Declaration By Cripps

TWO-FOLD POLICY

London, Jan. 26.—The British Government does not propose to alter the rate of sterling in relation to other currencies as a result of France's decision to devalue the franc at its controlled rate and to recognise a free rate.

Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announcing this in the House of Commons tonight, said he did not believe such a counter action "will be rendered necessary or advisable."

Precautions would, however, have to be taken by Britain. "Our policy will be two-fold: to give any help we can to assist the French Government in reaching their objective of a fixed uniform rate at as early a date as possible and, at the same time, to take such measures as may prove necessary in the interval to limit the repercussions on our own currency and many other currencies in which we are closely interested."

Sir Stafford said that after his week-end visit to Paris, he had left British technical staff there to work out, with the French Government, precautions which the British Government must take.

"This is a matter in which we bear responsibility to the whole of the sterling area and to all those others who are trading on the basis of sterling," he said, "and we must therefore maintain our freedom to take any action which may be found necessary."

"In any action, that we are compelled to take, we shall, of course, exercise the greatest care not to add to the difficulties of our French friends more than might prove inevitable."

PROTECTING STERLING
The Government is not intended to give facilities for the flight of capital from France for purposes of speculation or for arbitrage between currencies and another.

Sir Stafford gave no assurance that both Britain and France were anxious that their differences should not interfere with the proposals of Mr. Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, for a Western European union, including those two countries, and also Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg, with the possibility of others joining the union later.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, reporting on his talks, said the French regarded it as impracticable at this stage in the evolution of their economic programme to determine a new and fixed rate for the franc which would be appropriate.

"Therefore, in their judgment, it was necessary that, for the trans-

action of confused thinking when it reverts that Britain has done nothing to settle a long-standing dispute. So far as the British Government is concerned no dispute exists. Certain elements in China have attempted to make the subject of the retrocession of Hongkong and Kowloon into an issue, but so far there has been no direct approach to the British Government by Nanking indicating a desire to open up negotiations. The "dispute" which the Economist so glibly writes about is, therefore, nothing more than an agitation by political opportunists, supported from time to time by student movements. It is possible that eventually the Chinese Government may officially open negotiations on the subject, but as yet they have given no such sign, and there is certainly no call for Britain to take the initiative. Hongkong, under British rule, has something of value to contribute to the future prosperity of the Far East, and to surrender this responsibility as the Economist suggests, solely because Britain has renounced other treaty rights, would be nothing but a disservice to the large Chinese population which lives within the Colony's borders. The Kowloon City dispute can and will be settled without recourse to international courts of justice, and with the larger question of the retrocession of Hongkong, we need not, at this time, be concerned.

action period, part of the convertible currencies coming to France should find its level through the operation of the free market.

"They came to the conclusion that if they accepted any of our suggestions, they would be unable to achieve, in full measure, the results for which they hoped from their present arrangement."

"Although all of us agreed upon the extreme importance of working towards a greater economic integration of Western Europe, the judgment of the two sides upon the effect that the French action was likely to have differed."

BRITISH VIEWPOINT

"We held the view that the particular methods which they were proposing were of less desirability for them than they considered, and that the adverse effects upon co-operation between the franc and other European currencies, which were likely to ensue from their action, were greater than they had estimated."

"As a result, they decided to adopt a method in the form which Mr. Mayer had first explained to me, despite the disapproval which they were conscious would be reflected by the International Monetary Fund."

"We regard this result as unfortunate, but nevertheless we are anxious, as are the French Government, that this difference of opinion should have no adverse effect on our general relations and co-operation, or in any way militate against our coming together for the purposes announced by the Foreign Secretary on Thursday last and to which I found the warmest response amongst all members of the French Government whom I met."

Of his first interviews with Mr. Mayer in London 10 days ago, the Chancellor of the Exchequer recalled: "I emphasised that we were entirely in sympathy with the main objective which the French Government had in view, which was to arrive at a realistic value between the franc and the dollar."

METHODS IN DISPUTE

"I said that we were prepared to support that objective at the Fund but that we were not in agreement with the method which they proposed to adopt."

"We told the French Government that if they found it possible to accept a straight devaluation of the franc without the system of a free market, we would do all we could to help them by immediate discussions for the expansion to trade between the franc and the sterling areas on that basis," Sir Stafford declared.

The French Government, however, concluded that straight devaluation was, for a number of reasons, impracticable for them.

"We would still agree to work immediately for an expansion of trade and for the provision of additional important supplies for French economy if they could accept a suggestion to which we understood had been made to them in Washington that the free market should not apply to the rate for commercial transactions but should be limited to financial transactions such as the repatriation of French capital held abroad."

"The French found themselves unable, for the requirements of their own economic position, to depart from their original methods,"—Reuter.

Stock Exchange Reacts To French Decision

NEWSPAPER CRITICISM

London, Jan. 27.—Government securities broke on the Stock Exchange today, reflecting fears that devaluation of the franc will damage the pound sterling.

The British Cabinet was in emergency session. Investors rushed to "get into gold." The demand forced up the prices of South African gold shares. These shares also opened strong on the Capetown market, indicating belief that, sooner or later, the pound must be cheaper. It is now officially worth four dollars and two cents but has sold down to two dollars 50 cents in uncontrolled markets.

London newspapers, reporting the pound in jeopardy, said the break in Government bonds, wiped out millions of pounds in market values. Market sources attributed this break to lack of demand rather than general liquidation. There was a sell-off, however, in early trading.

Most other sections of the London market were quiet. Industrials were about steady, base metals and commodities were fully firm.

Any lowering of the pound's value would mean that Britain would have to put up more pounds for purchases abroad. That would imperil the Labour Government's recovery programme. It might validly last week to have France hamper her devaluation.—Associated Press.

GLOOMY PREDICTIONS

Paris, Jan. 26.—Leading articles in today's French papers, which do not usually publish on a Monday but came out today to give details of the devaluation plan, made sharp criticism and gloomy predictions about the scheme.

The Leftist France-Tireur wrote: "France has thrown her stake on the international roulette table and Mr. Rene Mayer is playing the capitalist game with precise mastery."

The Leftwing Radical L'Order evaluated the new franc "with all the tender solicitude caused by the illness of a loved one."

The authoritative Le Monde comments that the devaluation of the franc should be the starting point of an international financial co-ordination desired by the whole world rather than a signal for the outbreak of commercial warfare. France, Great Britain and all other Western nations should immediately re-examine, not only their monetary interrelation, but all their international commercial dealings in the light of the present crisis, Le Monde said.

UNDERTAKINGS BROKEN

Le Populaire, organ of the Socialist Party, said the decision "has caused grave disagreement with an allied country and constitutes a breaking of the undertakings towards an organisation created to direct economic and financial co-operation between the nations."

The independent Moderate "Combat" considered that one of the objectives of the United States has been attained in France, "but in an oblique and shameful manner."

The paper said it would be astonishing if the United States had not given France "some discreet encouragement," even though she ostensibly voted against France and supported Britain in the International Monetary Fund.

The most severe newspaper condemnation of the devaluation scheme came from the Paris Communist Party organ, L'Humanite, which said the operation was "not for national, but essentially capitalist interests."—Reuter.

OFFICIAL U.S. REACTION

Washington, Jan. 26.—If the worst feared about the franc devaluation are fulfilled, this would have serious effects on the successful operation of the European recovery programme, a United States Treasury spokesman warned today.

The spokesman formally confirmed the American opposition to the French Government's action.

He said: "The view of this Government is completely in accordance with the view of the Fund." He added, however, that the United States proposed to make no unilateral approaches to the French Government, "but would continue to operate in this matter through the Fund."

Cold Wave To Continue

After touching the 1917 minimum of 38.8 about 10 o'clock last night, the temperature gradually rose.

One reading showed the thermometer registering 39.3 degrees, and at 9 o'clock this morning the Royal Observatory reported that the temperature was 43.

Observatory officials do not expect the weather to become much colder, although they predict that the temperature will remain around the 40 degrees level for some days.

KASHMIR DISCUSSIONS CANCELLED

Lake Success, Jan. 26.—The discussions arranged for this afternoon between the Indian and Pakistan delegates have been cancelled, the Indian delegation announced tonight.

The Indian delegates were awaiting instructions from their government, it added.

Fears were being expressed here today that the round-table conference which was to have been held this afternoon would have revealed important differences in the points of view of the two delegations.

The earlier optimism in United Nations circles, that the question of a plebiscite for Kashmir could be speedily resolved, received some setback through recent utterance by Indian spokesmen.

India's view, as expressed by delegation spokesmen here, is that Kashmir acceded to India and there is, therefore, every legal right for the presence of Indian Army forces there to maintain law and order.

PLEBISCITE ISSUE
The second point of difference between the contending parties is understood to be a question of the "neutral" administration in Kashmir to act as a sort of interim government during the holding of the plebiscite.

While the Indian delegation is perfectly prepared to have a plebiscite under Security Council control or supervision, this should not be taken to imply a change in the administration by Sheikh Abdullah's government.

The Pakistan delegation, on the other hand, is believed to be taking its case on what they considered to be "a general feeling" of the Security Council as expressed, particularly on Saturday, by delegates of the United States, Canada, France and Syria.

The Pakistan delegation is specially impressed by the suggestions made by Mr. Warren Austin, of the United States, for an interim plebiscite administration, as he declared, "as nearly impartial and perfect as possible."

Both the Pakistan Government and what is termed the "Free Kashmir Government" have refused to recognise the legal sovereignty of Sheikh Abdullah's administration.—Reuter.

EXCHANGE RATES

Paris, Jan. 26.—The gold napoleon dropped by 225 francs to 3,700 francs on the Paris black market today.

The Swiss gold franc dropped by 250 francs to 3,450 francs.—Reuter.

Palistine Latest Explosion

Rocks Holy City

British Troops Seize Ammunition Dump

Jerusalem, Jan. 26.—A large quantity of ammunition was seized and 23 Arabs were arrested when British Airborne troops raided a house in the Arab quarter of Haifa last night, the British Military Headquarters in Jerusalem announced today.

The house was described as the operational headquarters of an Arab gang.

Jewish sources reported that one person was killed and 11 wounded when an Arab bus was blown up by a mine between Bethlehem and Jerusalem today.

A heavy explosion shook the centre of Jerusalem today, spraying part of the famous area with debris, when a large explosive charge went off in an empty Jewish shop below some empty flats in a burned out commercial centre.

SHOPS RIPPED APART

The explosion ripped open shop fronts and hurled metal shutters and pieces of masonry into the street but caused no known casualties.

Seven Arabs were killed in night attacks near Tel-Aviv, Jewish sources claimed today.

Three of the Arabs were killed during a Haganah attack with automatic fire and hand-grenades near Yaffa, on the main highway outside Tel-Aviv, and another Arab a lorry driver, was shot dead in the same area, the Jews reported.

Haganah claimed to have repulsed an Arab attack in the borderland between Tel-Aviv and Jaffa, and to have killed three of the attackers.—Reuter.

SOUTHERN FRONT

Cairo, Jan. 27.—Ahmed Hussein, leader of the Young Egypt Party, said today he would leave soon for the Egyptian-Palentine border "to choose a spot for reopening the southern front." The main objective, he said, will be Tel-Aviv.

"The world will hear soon of a decisive blow struck by the Arabs at Palestine Jews," he added.

Hussein denied reports that Fawzi Bey at Kaukji, Commander of the Arab armies, is in Palestine. The Commander is still in Syria, he said. "Kaukji will enter Palestine at the head of a large army," he predicted.—Associated Press.

U.S. FAMILIES LEAVE

Jerusalem, Jan. 26.—Eight United States citizens left Jerusalem for the port town of Haifa today, heavily guarded by police and armoured cars.

The group, composed of the wives and families of American consular officials, included the wife and daughter of the American Consul-General, Mr. Robert Macneice.—Reuter.

APPEAL FOR FUNDS

Chicago, Jan. 26.—Mrs. Golda Myerson, head of the Jerusalem Political Department of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, appealed to American Jews today to furnish between \$25 million and \$30 million immediately to the Jews of Palestine.

Mrs. Myerson told the annual assembly of the Council of the Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds that the 9,000 men now mobilised in Palestine and costing \$14,000 every 24 hours to maintain, must be increased to 27,000 within the next few days.—Reuter.

Coal Output Competition

London, Jan. 26.—Scotland is still leading in the national coal output competition for the Mitchell-Hedges trophy. Having scored 162 points in the three weeks ended January 10, the Scottish miners have now 780 points.

Second, with a total of 646 points, is the Southwestern Division (South Wales, Monmouthshire, Somerset and Dean Forest).

The Kentish miners, who have been steadily climbing the League table, continue at third place with 616 points.

The other positions in the competition table are: Northern Division (Durham, Northumberland and Cumberland)—403 points; North-Eastern Division (Yorkshire)—408 points; East Midlands Division (Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire)—390 points; North-Western Division (Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales)—223 points; and West Midlands Division (North and South Staffordshire, Cannock, Chase, Shropshire and Warwickshire)—84 points.—Reuter.

Chinese Communists' Plan For Invasion Of S. China

Nanking, Jan. 26.—Semi-official reports said today that captured Communist prisoners disclosed a plan by the Chinese Red High Command to cross the Yangtze into South China beginning May this year.

The reports said the Chinese Red High Command headed by Gen. Chu Teh had ordered all preparations to be completed prior to the May operations.

The prisoners disclosed the following Communist programme for the domination of the Yangtze Valley and the eventual disruption of partially restored trade and commerce in South China.

Firstly, Communist regular forces north of the Yellow River will be sent southward to reinforce the armies of Generals Liu Po-cheng, Chen Yi and Chen Keng, leaving local militia to garrison the vacated areas.

Secondly, newly recruited forces in North China will be sent southward to strengthen the Chinese Red hold of Tientsin, Fushan and Tangshan mountain ranges.

Thirdly, destruction of the Lungai-Peiping-Hankow and Tientsin-Pukow railways will be stepped up in line with the general Communist policy of weakening the Nationalists through the disruption of transportation.

Other authoritative sources said the government is planning another

Chinese Red suppression command at Hsuehchou in direct operations against the Communists in Anhwei, Honan, Kiangsu and Shantung border regions. The decision to set up a new command was made at conferences now under way in Hsuehchou which is attended by the governors of the four provinces and all the field commanders in the area. The new command would be headed by Gen. Chu Ching-chung.

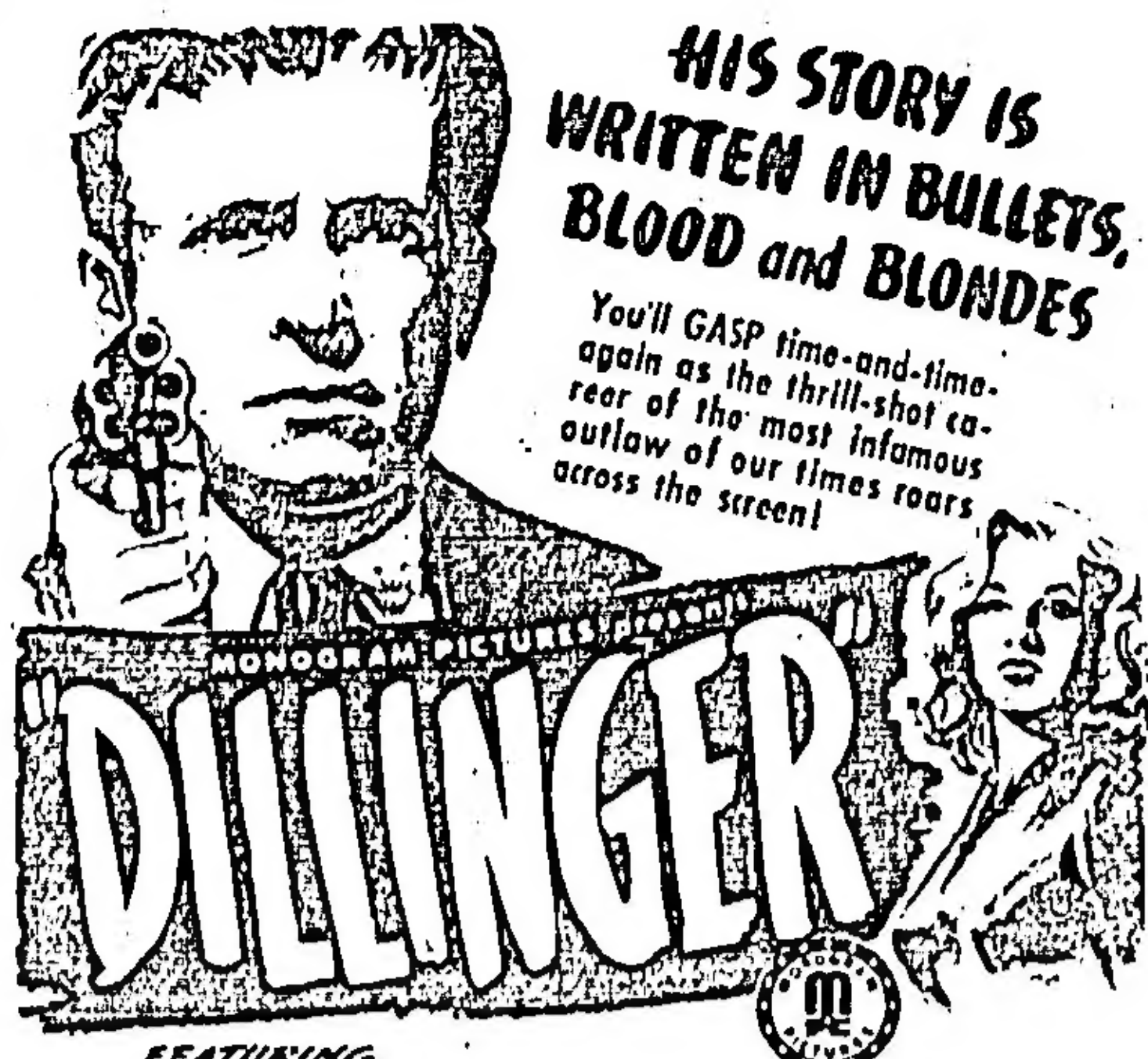
Dispatches from Manchuria said bloody hand-to-hand fighting raged without letup around Hsilitun railway station with the Reds attacking under heavy continuous artillery fire.

It was believed that the government position was untenable but the capture of the city by the Reds has not yet been reported.

Mukden reports said the Nationalists recaptured Tungfeng and Hsifeng 70 and 30 miles east and south-east of Szeeping. A new Communist attack was reported to be imminent 60 miles south of Peiping with large Red forces crossing the Taising River northward toward Peiping. Other Red regiments were reported along the Peiping-Paoing line.—United Press.

SHOWING
TO-DAY

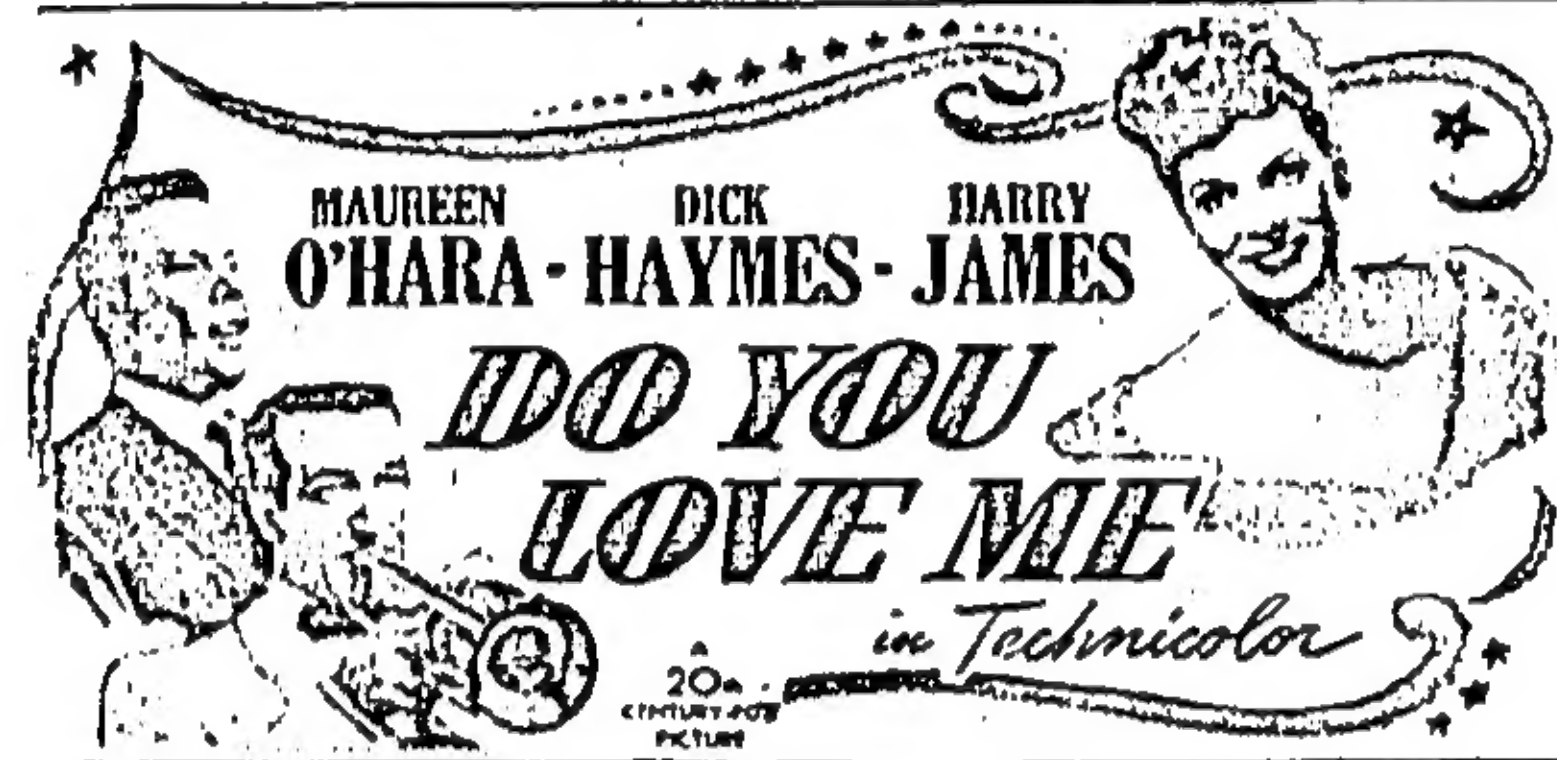
KING'S

At 2.30, 5.15,
7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

FEATURING
Edmund LOWE ★ **Anne JEFFREYS**
EDUARDO CIANNELLI · MARC LAWRENCE · ELISHA COOK, JR.
—AND—
INTRODUCING **Lawrence TIERNEY** —AS— **DILLINGER**

TO-DAY
ONLY

QUEEN'S

at 2.30, 5.15,
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

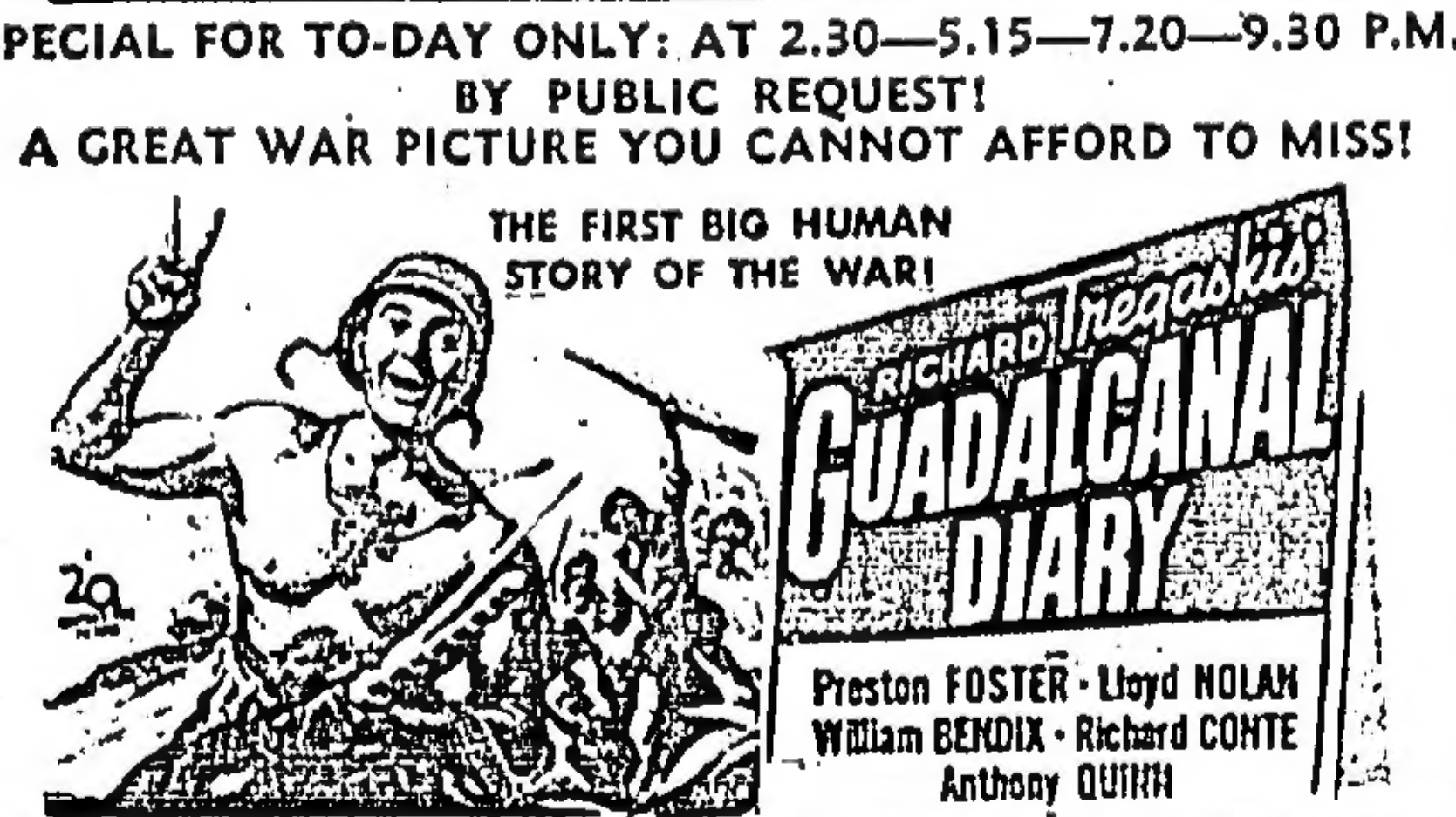
— OPENS TO-MORROW (ONE DAY ONLY) —
James MASON in "THE UPTURNED GLASS"

ADDED
"THOROUGHBREDS FOR THE WORLD"
See classic horse races as:—the Kentucky Derby, Grand Prix,
THE DERBY, the Melbourne Cup and many others!

ALHAMBRA THEATRE
SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

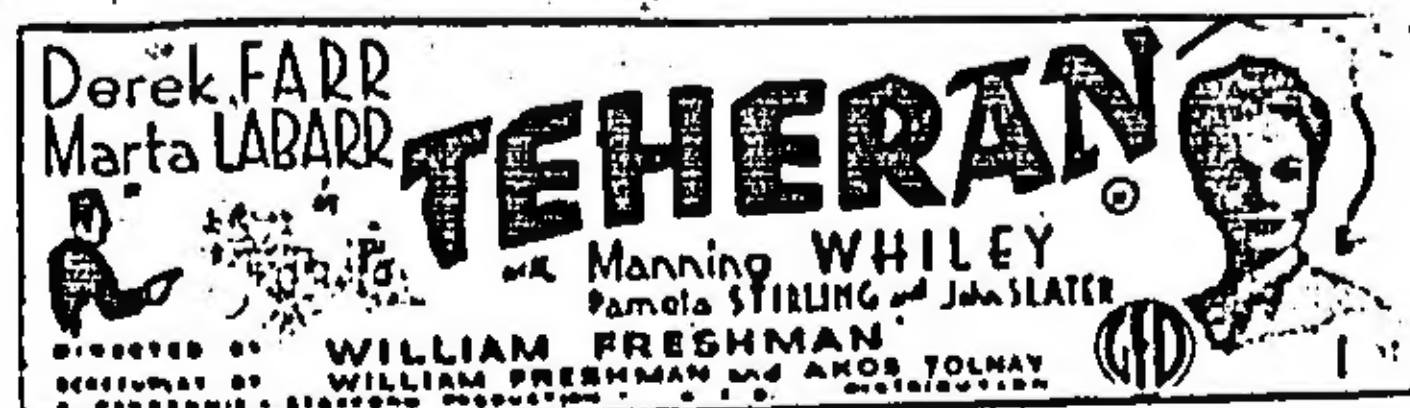


ORIENTAL
SPECIAL FOR TO-DAY ONLY: AT 2.30—5.15—7.20—9.30 P.M.
BY PUBLIC REQUEST!
A GREAT WAR PICTURE YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS!



For To-morrow only: "THIEF OF BAGDAD"

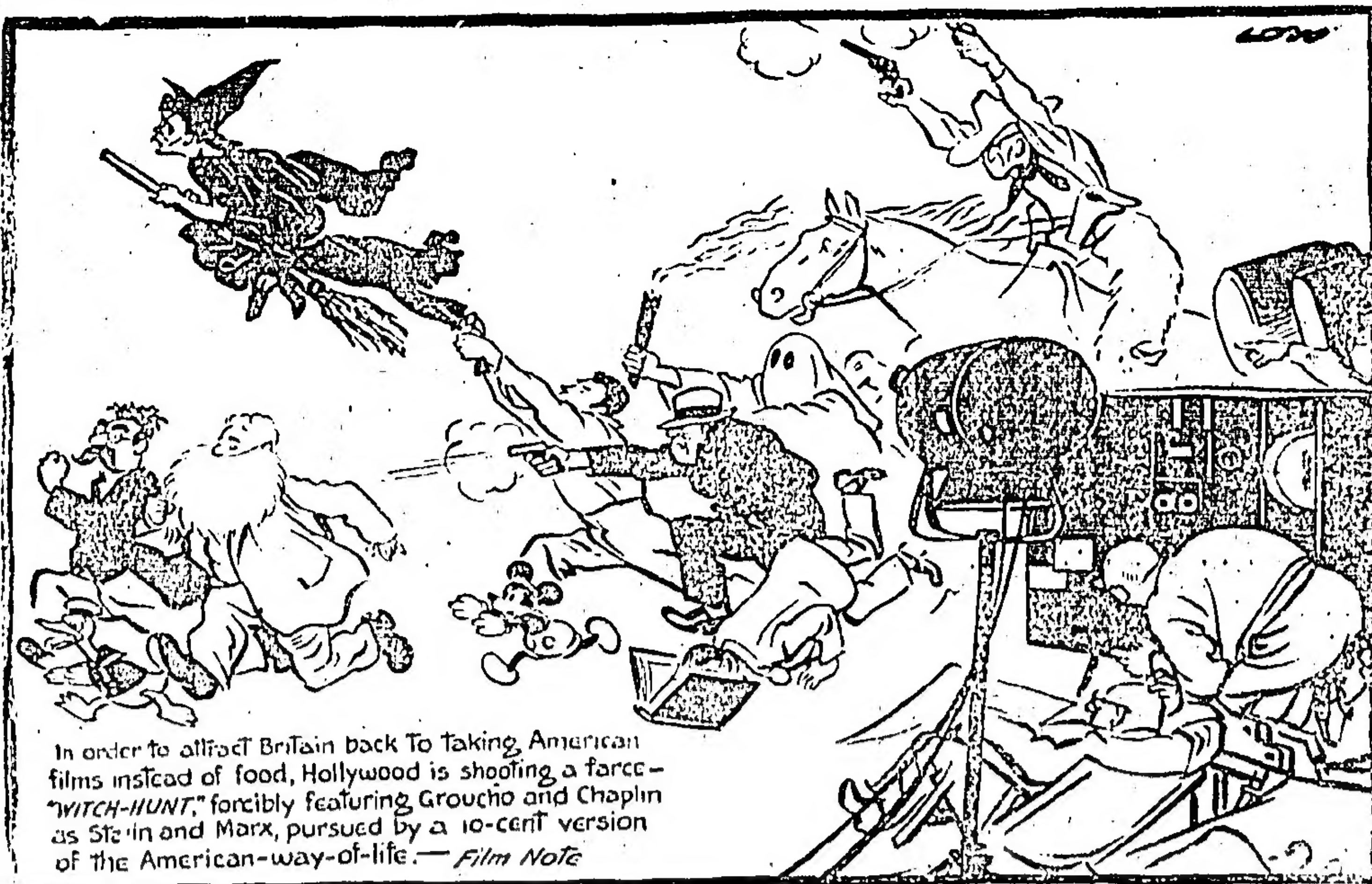
SHOWING
TO-DAY **Cathay** AT 2.30, 5.20,
7.20 & 9.20 p.m.
DOUBLE ATTRACTIONS



ALSO:—J. ARTHUR RANK ORGANISATION
has the honour to present

"THE ROYAL WEDDING" in TECHNICOLOR

NEXT CHANGE • Jimmy DURANTE • Jane WYMAN in
"YOU'RE IN THE ARMY NOW"



COLOSSAL MORONIC EPIC

MAD DOGS—BAD MEN

Both should be killed without compunction

says

BERNARD SHAW

CAPITAL punishment is a term which indicates muddled thinking.

The dilemma of kill or be killed, which confronts civilised society daily and inexorably, is bedevilled by the jumble of panic, superstition, and angry resentment we call punishment, expiation, propitiatory blood sacrifice, justice, and many other imposing names.

The dilemma is a hard fact which must be faced and organised. The jumble should be unravelled and its superstitions utterly discarded.

'LIQUIDATIONS' Sheer necessities

Let me illustrate.

Dogs are friends of Man; but an exceptional dog sometimes goes mad and runs amok through the streets, biting and infecting everybody it comes across.

Fond as we may be of dogs, we must kill it on the spot, by gun or bludgeon.

Cobras and adders, perfectly sane and normal, may get loose in a school playground or domestic garden. We break their necks without trial by jury.

A fox caught in a poultry yard is liquidated on the spot, though it is only acting according to its nature as we ourselves do when we eat turkey. We have killed the fox for pursuing with the same purpose.

Nobody thinks of these liquidations as punishments, nor expiations, nor sacrifices, nor anything but what they really are: sheer necessities.

Precisely the same necessity arises in the daily-occurring cases of incorrigibly mischievous human beings. They are vermin in the commonwealth, ferocious wild beasts on our highways, robbers and crooks of all sorts.

OFF WITH HIM Let him not wake up

What are we to do with them?

To punish them is absurd: two blacks do not make a white; and punishment creates a class of punishers whose lives

are wasted and their characters depraved so that as citizens they become almost as undesirable as the criminals they torture.

But the criminals have to be dealt with somehow.

The thoughtless humanitarian is ready with his reply. Reform the criminal; be kind to him.

But the criminal who can be reformed is not the problem. If you can reform him (or her) reform him; that is all. Do not make him a martyr.

The real problem is the criminal you cannot reform: the human mad dog or cobra.

The answer is, kill him kindly and apologetically, if possible without consciousness on his part.

Let him go comfortably to bed expecting to wake up in the morning as usual, and not wake up. His general consciousness that this may happen to him should be shared by every citizen as part of his moral civic responsibility.

ANOTHER CLASS THEY MAY BREED

There is a considerable class of persons who become criminals because they cannot fend for themselves, but who under tutelage, superintendence, and provided sustenance, are self-supporting and even profitable citizens. They make good infantry soldiers and well-behaved prisoners.

But throw them out into the streets and they are presently in the dock.

They also present no problem. Reorganise their lives for them; and do not prate foolishly about their liberty.

But it may be asked whether they are to be allowed not only to read the newspapers but also to marry and breed.

Yes, decidedly; for human stock needs its fallows as much as wheat or oats; and these feckless creatures may be only fallows; their children may be as competent as their ancestors.

Humane treatment of them will not deprive their custodians, and may prove very instructive.

But the ungovernables, the ferocious, the conscienceless, the idiots, the self-centred myops and morons, what of them?

Do not punish them. Kill, kill, kill, kill them. The most amiably soft-hearted monarch, confronted with a death warrant, must sign it or abdicate as unfit to reign.

MURDERERS And social duties

The Abolitionists will reply at once that in countries where there is no death penalty there is no increase of crime.

But there is the atrociously cruel alternative of imprisonment for life; for though our incorrigibles may be let loose on society after 13 years or less, they are soon back for again acting according to their natures.

Meanwhile they are wasting and depraving honest citizens as warders, chaplains, and jail governors, who are almost as much prisoners as the criminals they have to torment.

Besides, the increase or decrease of crime is not the point at issue. The percentage of incorrigibles is not affected by the cruelty or kindness of the law. It would remain the same whether we boiled murderers in oil or gave them gold medals.

Capital punishment or no capital punishment, there they are with their problem of what is to be done with them.

They are not all murderers. Most of them are quite incapable of committing a murder, but are equally incapable of discharging their social duties and paying their way.

On the other hand, murderers are hanged although they have acted under such provocation that there is no reason to fear that they will make a habit of killing their neighbours.

ATOM BOMB'S BENEFIT TO AGRICULTURE

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS

THE atom bomb kicked up a lot of dust in the pea patches of Nagasaki. Some good, some bad.

Dr. Raymond E. Zirkle, director of the Institute of Radiobiology and Biophysics at the University of Chicago, says radioactive peas in the Japanese city may grow to the size of a grenade—and may be just as dangerous.

Nagasaki, it may be recalled, was the second Japanese city to feel the sting of the atom bomb. The soil in that area, the scientists report, showed increased productivity of 50 to 300 percent over the normal yield, making little peas grow into strangely big peas.

"Although atomic research offers agriculture tremendous hope for improvement," Zirkle said, "it is going to take time, money and scientific teamwork before beneficial results can be achieved on a practical scale."

Big Investment

"The University of Chicago is investing \$12,000,000 in an atomic research programme that may pay heavy dividends, not only in agricultural benefits, but in all fields which advance civilisation."

The scientist warned that experiments with radioactive plant fertilisers may create a health hazard unless conducted or supervised by qualified scientists.

"Radioactive substances emit rays destructive to living cells," he said. "When these substances are absorbed by plants—such as peas—a concentration of them sometimes occurs in the edible portion."

"If these plants are eaten by humans, the radioactivity sometimes may concentrate further in a part of the body, such as bone or liver. A sufficient amount may cause radiation by poisoning, and that is why it is necessary to check each plant that has been used in radioactive experiments."

Benefits Expected

"Despite the hazard of radioactivity," Zirkle said, "it does not preclude the possibility that agricultural benefits may result from more intensive experiments."

"Through the use of radioactive tracers, we may learn how to obtain improved soils and fertilisers, healthier plants and animals, and food products far superior to those we now know."

"Tracers are being used to help unravel the complicated phenomenon of growth. If the mechanism of growth were well understood, remarkable improvement in crops would result."

"Tracers are making possible a better understanding of the way in which plants actually draw from the soil. This research is quite likely to result in improved fertiliser practices."

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

"WHEN you find that something is not what it is supposed to be, the best course is to go and ask someone what it is."

These timely words of an official spokesman in touch with all that is most laudable in modern life may be applied to the new soups, conps, or synthetic detergent, which must not be confused with the new fishless fish.

Old days in Ahahaland

THE Ahahas are great hunters. Their shields and boots and hats and cooking utensils are made of rhinoceros hide. When a herd of rhinoceros is in the neighbourhood of a village boys are sent out with baby buffaloes. The buffaloes pick up the scent and start in pursuit. As the rhinoceros runs much faster than the baby buffalo, by the time the boys have gone back to warn the hunters both buffaloes and rhinoceroses are far away. Having thus lured the rhinoceros away from them, the hunters make a vast circuit of many weeks, until they see the rhinoceros tracks. They then dig a great pit, concealing it with branches, near a water-hole, and when the beasts come down to drink at night the hunters creep up and usually frighten them away. They hardly ever catch any rhinoceroses.

which is why so few of them have boots or hats or shields or cooking utensils.

Nothing to do with me

HERE is what seems to me an utterly incomprehensible incident. Two foreign singers were recently rehearsing in a London concert hall. One said to the manager: "What are the narcotics of this hall like?" "You mean acetates," said the manager. "How dare you?" shouted the singers, and they both set on the manager, and knocked him down.

Epitaph

Here lies a death-watch beetle. An example to idlers and shirkers. But not too popular with The Antagonated Society of Woodworkers. (Copyright in all oak beams.)

New pointless intake of body-fuel

Tasting the first fossilised news imported in this from Arabia, the Food Minister exclaimed, "This is better than the wooden fish from the Moheens, or even the spunglass eggs from Brno."

From the "Government News" of January 9, 1950.

NANCY A Horse of Another Etc.

By Ernie Bushmiller

